

China backs Arab peace efforts

PEKING (AP) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang has said that China is willing to work with Arab nations to ease the tension in the Gulf, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported. Mr. Zhao, speaking at a meeting on Saturday with Jordanian Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, said China hopes Iran and Iraq will end their war on terms acceptable to both sides. He urged them to enquire with the U.N. Security Council in achieving peace. Xinhua said, the July 20 United Nations ceasefire resolution "provides a good basis for political settlement to the Iran-Iraq conflict." Mr. Zhao was quoted as saying, Mr. Masri said the resolution was balanced and took into consideration the interests of both sides. Mr. Masri heads a six-member Arab League delegation that arrived Friday to discuss the Gulf situation with Chinese leaders. On Saturday, he expressed satisfaction with China's clear-cut position, Xinhua said. Earlier Saturday, Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian met with Mr. Masri and reiterated China's position of strict neutrality and active reconciliation, Xinhua said. The United States and others say China, a permanent member of the Security Council, is a major supplier of arms to Iran.

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جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

Cheysson hopeful over peace prospects

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad discussed the Middle East and relations with the European Community Sunday with visiting EC Commissioner Claude Cheysson, the Syrian news agency (SANA) reported. The talks were attended by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharran. Mr. Cheysson later left Damascus. Speaking before his departure, Mr. Cheysson expressed hope that an urgent Arab summit would discuss prospects of an international peace conference on the Middle East as well as launch moves to end the Gulf war. He said there was a "good chance" for holding the proposed peace conference. "My talks with the Syrian leadership centred on the sought international conference on the Middle East. I would carry the impressions I gathered during my stay here to the EC," said Mr. Cheysson. He refused to elaborate. On the EC's stand on the increasing tension in the Gulf, Mr. Cheysson said that although the 12-member bloc's relations with the area focused more on economic aspects, it believed that "freedom of navigation" should be maintained in the Gulf area. He described the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war as "the deterioration of civilisation."

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Saudi interior minister due today

AMMAN (Petra) — Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz is due here today on an official three-day visit to Jordan during which he will be received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The Saudi minister will also hold talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani dealing with bolstering Saudi Arabian-Jordanian cooperation in security affairs. Prince Nayef will be accompanied by an official delegation.

Morocco suggests Islamic summit

RABAT (R) — Morocco has suggested that an extraordinary Islamic summit conference be held to discuss the violence during this year's pilgrimage to Mecca, diplomatic sources said on Sunday. The suggestion was conveyed on Saturday to chiefs of diplomatic missions from Islamic countries in Rabat by Prime Minister Azzeddine Laraki, the sources said. A special summit was first proposed by Egypt after more than 400 pilgrims died on July 31 in violence following a demonstration in Islam's holiest city by pilgrims from Iran. The last regular summit, the 5th organised by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), was held in Kuwait in January.

Argentines vote

BUENOS AIRES (AP) — Nineteen million Argentines voted Sunday in national elections that could derail President Raul Alfonsín's efforts at constitutional reform and cost his ruling party its narrow majority in the House of Deputies. Voting began at 8 a.m. (1100 GMT) in 74,000 polling places from frigid Tierra del Fuego to the Bolivian border in elections for half of the 254 seats in the lower house, 21 of the 22 provincial governors and almost 10,000 mayoral and municipal posts. Voting in Argentina is obligatory.

Ozal calls elections

ANKARA (AP) — Premier Turgut Ozal, without waiting for the result of a crucial referendum, called Sunday for early elections a year ahead of schedule. Mr. Ozal made his announcement immediately after polls closed on a referendum vote on lifting constitutional bans which forbid several dozen former politicians from joining parties or seeking elective office until 1992 (See page 2). Mr. Ozal said the executive committee of his ruling Motherland Party had decided to call for early elections in November.

Siamese twins successfully separated

BALTIMORE (AP) — A 70-member team at Johns Hopkins Hospital on Sunday successfully separated seven-month-old Siamese twins joined at the head in a complicated operation that doctors said had a 50 per cent chance of succeeding. The operation on the West German twins began early Saturday and was completed at 5:10 a.m. (0910 GMT) Sunday morning, said a spokeswoman for the hospital's children's centre. "At the end of the 22-hour operation, the boys — Patrick and Benjamin Binder — who are now two separate boys — were in critical but stable condition," she said.

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King, opening national conference on education, calls for qualitative reform

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said Sunday the momentum of education in Jordan was decelerating in terms of quality and called for a timely review and reform of the education system towards a better adjustment to the pressing demands of a fast-changing world.

Opening a national conference on education, the King said the focus of education should be on quality rather than quantity so that students are trained and prepared in a way that makes the best out of the Kingdom's available resources.

"This is why we directed the government two years ago to begin a process reviewing and

reforming the education system in preparation for drawing up a new educational policy that guarantees our children a safe transition into the twenty-first century," the King told the conference.

The King said His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan supervised the review and reform process since its initiation and that he

himself took part in discussions of the national committee established for this purpose.

"Review and reform reinvigorate the country's systems and institutions," the King said in his speech at the Royal Cultural Centre on Sunday. The process of review and reform "is a course we have always followed and preserved... it is time for its implementation in the field of education by employing our experience and knowledge," the King added.

He said four principles should guide the revamping of the education system and policy. He said the four principles were:

— Preserving of a qualitative balance between resources and the population.

— Safeguarding the balance between the Jordanian national character and the world's cultures.

— Adjusting to changing times.

— Preserving the belief in God and spiritual values and the importance of science in life and respect for work.

In the past 25 years, the King said, the world witnessed a technological revolution in the area of knowledge and information that resulted in many changes in the fields of human activity. The changes occurred in the fields of science, medicine, communications, genetical engineering, energy, electronics and physics, he noted. Other changes were witnessed in the economic, financial and social fields, he said.

These changes posed many questions that need to be

(Continued on page 3)

Conference begins deliberations over new education strategies, page 3



His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday opens a two-day national conference on education (Petra photo)

Gulf tanker war eases; Tehran threatens Kuwait over expulsion

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The "tanker war" in the Arabian Gulf appeared to ease Sunday after a week of intensive attacks on shipping by Iraq and Iran, but Tehran warned it would respond "in due course" to Kuwait's expulsion of five Iranian diplomats — a move it charges was instigated by the United States.

Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, while giving no hint of what the response would be, was quoted as suggesting Kuwait had been forced into the decision by the United States.

Kuwait on Saturday ordered the five Iranian diplomats to leave the country within a week, and asked the United Nations to take urgent measures against Iran for unprovoked acts of aggression.

No specific charges against the diplomats were made public. But Kuwait told U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that Iran was guilty of numerous hostile acts that merited U.N. action.

It cited the firing of a missile against Kuwaiti territory Friday and an earlier Iranian attack on a Kuwait-flag freighter in the Gulf. It added it was withholding other grievances to avoid complicating the U.N. leader's efforts to bring about a ceasefire.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar will travel next week to Iran and Iraq on a mission to try to end the conflict.

Two missiles have been reported, and one officially confirmed, as having hit Kuwaiti territory in the past six days. A third was rumoured after people in Kuwait reported hearing a "boom" early Saturday. No evidence of a missile was reported.

Witnesses quoted by AP said Friday's missile crashed in sand near an empty beach house just south of the Al Ahmadi oil terminal, where two U.S.-reflagged Kuwait tankers were moored for loading, doing only minor damage.

At least one seaman aboard an anchored vessel claimed seeing the projectile, travelling about 50 metres above the water.

The government has not identified the projectile publicly. But Kuwait-based shipping officials and a senior Gulf government official said it was a Chinese-built

Silkworm, fired from perhaps 80 kilometres away in Iranian-held territory of Iraq's Fao Peninsula.

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said a technical report on Friday's missile established it was Chinese-made with a range of 80-100 miles and had been fired from Iran.

The report, reviewed on Sunday by the council of ministers, said the missile was sighted by monitoring stations on the Kuwaiti islands of Failaka and Bubiyan and was aimed at residential, oil and industrial installations.

Reporters visiting the site where the projectile landed said it hit sand next to a seaside chalet, blowing out windows in nearby houses.

The Silkworm, technically known as the Hai Ying Hy-2, is normally fired at ships and has an effective range of 80 kilometres.

The one which Kuwait says landed here was believed launched from the Fao Peninsula, occupied by Iranian forces for more than a year. Western military attaches reported a Silkworm test firing in the area five months ago.

Kuwait also was probing three suspicious fires that gutted buildings at the National University outside Kuwait City late Friday. Security sources, asking anonymity, said sabotage was a possibility.

Kuwaiti officials have blamed pro-Iranian Shi'ites for several recent terrorist bomb attacks, mainly against oil installations.

Gulf-based diplomats say a random firing of missiles could be another terrorist technique, designed more to intimidate Kuwait than to inflict serious damage.

Mr. Musavi was quoted by the Iranian news agency (IRNA) as saying Kuwait was "too weak" to take such actions as expelling the diplomats on its own, and was only obeying "that which is dictated upon it by other governments."

"Persian Gulf governments are permanent neighbours which should care more about good relations with each other than relations with the United States," IRNA quoted him as saying.

"However long the U.S. may linger in the Gulf, it will eventually

pull out of the waterway and let those states bear the consequences of their hostility with Iran," he said.

The United States has agreed to reflag 11 of Kuwait's tankers to protect them from Iranian attacks.

Three of those vessels exited the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday as the seventh convoy made what U.S. officials said was another "uneventful" journey down the Gulf.

However, one of the escorting U.S. warships was overheard on Saturday warning an Iranian vessel sailing near the convoy not to aim its guns toward the American, the British Broadcasting Corporation said.

"Iranian warship... you have pointed your gun mount at my ship. Do not do that again," the missile destroyer Kidd told the Iranian ship.

The unidentified Iranian vessel replied, "we are not here to bother you," according to the BBC, which monitored the exchange. It said further conversation was garbled, apparently by U.S. jamming.

The last of the 11 ships destined to be reflagged, the 290,085-tonne supertanker Middleton, is due to rendezvous with the navy outside the Gulf within the next few days.

There was no reports of any attack on shipping in the Gulf either by Iraq or Iran on Sunday. More than 20 ships were reported hit by Iran or Iraq during the past week.

Iraq resumed air strikes on Iranian oil installations and tankers on Aug. 29 saying it wanted to force Tehran to accept a resolution passed by the U.N. Security Council in July calling for a ceasefire.

Diplomats in Baghdad said it also wanted to choke off Iranian oil revenues to prevent Tehran building up its military strength for a ground offensive.

Baghdad says its air force has hit 15 Iranian tankers in eight days of intensive raids, besides striking at Iranian oilfields on land and offshore.

Iraq criticises EC statement, U.S. naval chief assails Gulf policy, page 2

Bern declines comment on 'new U.S.-Iran secret meeting'

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — A Swiss Foreign Ministry spokesman on Sunday declined comment on a report by a British newspaper that U.S. and Iranian representatives met secretly in Switzerland last week to discuss the Gulf crisis.

Spokesman Michel Pache said he could "neither confirm nor deny the report" in the Observer newspaper.

The Geneva newspaper La Suisse carried a similar report on Aug. 13, quoting an unnamed source in West Germany, but the report was never substantiated. The hotel where the Ayatollah Khomeini's son was reported to have stayed at that time denied that he had been there.

La Suisse had said in its article that its contact with the source was set up by an Iranian exile and that the paper could therefore "not exclude attempted disinformation."

The British weekly attributed its report to an unidentified "well-placed Iranian source."

The newspaper quoted a U.S. State Department spokeswoman in Washington, who was not identified, as saying she had no knowledge of such a meeting.

The Observer reported the source said the representatives also discussed the eight American hostages kidnapped in Lebanon and the possibility of closer links between the U.S. government and moderate Iranian leaders.

According to the Observer report, the U.S. group included advisers to Vice President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz. The Iranian delegation was led by Mohsen Rafsanjani, a son of Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, the newspaper said.

King visits Baghdad, returns after talks with Iraqi leaders

His Majesty, in interview with British paper, urges strong Arab stand against Iran

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein held official talks in Baghdad on Sunday evening soon after the King's arrival in the Iraqi capital on a working visit.

The King returned to Amman later Sunday.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the talks were attended by a Jordanian delegation which includes Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh as well as Jordan's Ambassador to Iraq Hilmi Al Lawzi.

The meeting was attended on the Iraqi side by First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin

Ramadan, Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz, Saadoun Shaker, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, Minister of Information Latif Jassem and Iraq's Ambassador to Jordan Ghafil Jasem Hussein.

The King was met upon arrival in Baghdad by the Iraqi president and senior Iraqi officials. The duration of the King's visit to Iraq was not immediately known but it was expected that he would return home late Sunday or early Monday.

Petra said earlier the talks between the two leaders were expected to focus on the Iran-Iraq war and the prospects of staging an Arab summit conference for adopting a unified Arab stand on

the Gulf conflict.

King Hussein's visit to Baghdad follows similar visits by him earlier in the week to Damascus and Cairo, where he had conferred with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

King Hussein, in an interview published Sunday, called for a strong Arab stand against Iran and expressed support for a warning by the Arab League to Tehran of a possible break in diplomatic relations unless the Iranian revolutionary regime accepted a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war by Sept. 20.

The King, in an interview published in the Sunday Telegraph, (Continued on page 2)

Bomb explodes at Jaffa Gate

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A small bomb placed in a garbage can exploded Sunday at Jerusalem's walled Old City, causing little damage and no injuries, a police spokesman said.

Police rushed to the scene and arrested six suspects, said Rafi Levy, a police spokesman. He did not elaborate but said the explosion occurred at about 12.20 a.m. (09.20 GMT) at the Jaffa Gate, one of the eight gates leading into the Old City.

The explosion occurred at midday when the Jaffa Gate, is usually thronged with foreign tourists.

In another incident, unknown assailants hurled a petrol bomb at a police station in the Askar

refugee camp near Nablus on Saturday, but caused no damage or injuries, Israel Radio reported.

Al Najah closed

Palestinian sources quoted by Reuters said the biggest Palestinian university in the Israeli-occupied West Bank had been closed because of clashes between nationalist and Muslim fundamentalist students.

Al Najah University in Nablus was closed by the student council for the second time in 10 days after supporters of the mainstream Fatah organisation and

Islamic radicals fought a pitched battle on the campus using fists, stones and other debris over Islamic New Year celebrations on Aug. 28, according to reports.

One student was seriously injured in the campus fighting.

A spokesman for the university, which has 3,500 students, said he hoped classes would resume on Monday.

Fatah supports control the Al Najah student council but Muslim fundamentalists are gaining increasing support in all four West Bank universities, which are frequently ordered closed by Israeli military authorities because of protests against the occupation.

Palestinians vowing revenge bury victims of Israeli air raid

SIDON (Agencies) — Some 15,000 angry Palestinians on Sunday buried victims of Israel's deadliest air raid into Lebanon this year, vowing to "escalate armed struggle against our enemy."

Police put the final casualty toll in Saturday's air attack on Palestinian camps in Sidon's outskirts at 49 killed and 60 wounded.

Eight bodies were recovered from the rubble overnight, police said.

This made the attack the deadliest of Israel's 22 air raids in Lebanon this year and the bloodiest against Palestinians since the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Petite records show more than 100 people were killed in an Israeli air raid against bases of pro-Iranian Revolutionary Guards near east Lebanon's ancient city of Baalbek Jan. 4, 1984.

"We shall take revenge of our martyrs," chanted the mourners as the bodies of 40 victims from the latest raid were buried in a mass grave in Sidon's Palestinian refugee camp of 'Ain Al Hilweh.

Police said two other Lebanese victims were buried separately in Sidon, provincial capital of South Lebanon 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

They said contacts were underway to arrange for the burial of seven other Palestinian victims in the Rashidiyeh refugee camp at Lebanon's southern-most port of Tyre, where they came from.

The teeming 'Ain Al Hilweh camp, the biggest in Lebanon with a population of 60,000, was totally shattered during the funeral procession.

Black flags hung from every balcony in 'Ain Al Hilweh and prayers blared from loudspeakers as cars decked with wreaths of flowers wound through the narrow unpaved streets of the shantytown.

The procession was led by 30 heavily-armed fighters, bearing a special wreath from Abu Nidal, the Palestinian leader branded as a "terrorist" in the West and whose Fatah-Revolutionary Council group has set up several offices in Lebanon.

An Abu Nidal centre was one of two guerrilla bases bombed by three waves of Israeli warplanes on Saturday. Two buildings

where refugee families lived were also reduced to rubble.

Local radio stations on Saturday said that Lebanon planned to file a complaint to the U.N. Security Council about Saturday's raid.

Abu Nidal's group was joined in the procession by officers from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) factions.

Women and children sobbed as the mourners marched to the cemetery singing nationalist songs.

"Our curses on Israel, on America and the whole world. Why won't they let us live in peace," screamed one woman who lost two sons in the raid.

Over the deafening sirens of 14 ambulances carrying the coffins draped in Palestinian flags, the mourners chanted slogans like "My people, hear, hear, they have killed the infants," and "Arabs, where are you in this bad Arab Time?"

In Tyre, witnesses quoted by Reuters said four Israeli warships approached within 1,000 metres of the port on Sunday but withdrew after coming under fire from Shi'ite Amal militiamen.

Libya says Chadian attack crushed and calls for general mobilisation

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Libya said it repulsed a new attack by Chad deep into Libyan territory on Sunday and called for general mobilisation of its people.

The official Libyan News Agency JANA, monitored by Reuters in Beirut, said Chadian forces attacked 300 kilometres deep into Libyan territory to strike the Sara civilian airport after Libyan forces "crushed" a previous attack on Saturday.

"The imperialist forces attacked the civilian Sara airport yesterday but were crushed and today they pushed new forces to attack the same airport but were repulsed," the agency said, quoting a Libyan armed forces communique.

Chad confirmed the attack and claimed its forces had overrun a major Sahara desert air base defended by some 3,000 Libyan troops.

Chad's Ambassador to France Ahmad Allammi said on Sunday that Chadian forces destroyed 30 combat aircraft and killed or captured hundreds of Libyan troops in a ground attack on the Maatani-Sarra base — an alternative name for Sara — on Saturday.

Ambassador Allammi told Reuters in a telephone interview that over 100 Soviet-made Libyan tanks and armoured vehicles were destroyed as well as "vast quantities" of other military equipment.

The remote desert stronghold is a key link in Libya's southern military command and lies some 100 kilometres north of the internationally recognised Chad-Libyan border.

It is the first time the forces of President Hissene Habre have struck inside Libyan territory and marked a major escalation of the long-running desert war.

In its Sunday dispatch, JANA gave no details of the attack and did not mention any casualties or damage.

The agency quoted the communique as saying: "We call on the Arab Libyan people to carry arms to face imperialism and defeat it. We are sure we will crush imperialism and its agents and liberate Chad."

"We call on the African men to join the masses of the Libyan revolution to purify Africa from the imperialist bases," the communique added.

Chad on Saturday said Libya had invaded the central African country and called for a "general mobilisation" of the Chadian population.

Officials in France said Libya appeared to be trying to take advantage of the recapture of the disputed border strip of Azouzou.

Gulf war plays into Israel's hands, Arab observers say

By John Fullerton
Reuter

NICOSIA — New attacks on oil tankers by Gulf war foes Iran and Iraq have played into the hands of Israel and overshadowed the Middle East peace process, Arab observers say.

"The Gulf war is strengthening Israel's position," said a Palestinian official in Beirut. "Iran and Iraq are using up their energies and the only beneficiary is Israel."

As if to underline Palestinian fears of isolation, Israel launched a massive air raid on Palestinian targets in South Lebanon on Saturday, the bloodiest since its forces invaded the country in 1982. At least 40 people were killed.

"Nobody even blinked," said a Palestinian near the southern port city of Sidon. "The Arabs are too bothered about their oil and the threat posed by Iran."

In Amman, a Western diplomat told Reuters: "The peace process is now on the back-burner."

"The Gulf war has widened the split in Arab ranks, with Egypt and especially Saudi Arabia be-

coming more influential," one Palestinian said.

He added: "There is a general Arab movement to the right ... and any split among Arabs is bad news for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)."

In Cairo, political observers said fear of Iran had helped to end Cairo's isolation from Gulf Arab states after Egypt signed the 1979 Camp David peace accord with Israel.

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"Egypt is now viewed as the knight that could rescue threatened Gulf Arab states," one analyst said.

A Cairo-based diplomat added: "As far as Egyptian foreign policy is concerned, they (the Egyptians) can see more mileage to be gained from the Gulf than

the Arab-Israeli issue."

Observers said Egypt continued to push the idea of an international Middle East peace conference but was deeply frustrated by Israel's internal divisions.

Some recent editorials in semi-official Egyptian newspapers have been deeply critical of Tel Aviv.

One prominent editor characterized differences between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres over the international conference as a "ridiculous farce" aimed at scuttling the peace process.

One front-page editorial in Akhbar Al Yom described the Israeli leaders as "two sides of a bad penny."

Cairo's English-language daily Gazette said last Friday that the Gulf conflict tended to "obscure the danger inherent in the potentially more explosive Middle East situation."

The editorial appeared a day after His Majesty King Hussein discussed the Gulf with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

"Mr. Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, and other

hardliners of the Likud block, may be exultant at the fact that the Gulf has drawn attention away from Israel's obstinate refusal to accept international peace talks," the Gazette said.

Syria, meanwhile, constantly reminds fellow Arab states that their struggle with Israel comes first.

"The Arab struggle with the Zionist enemy comes first and foremost in Arab priorities," Syrian state radio said on Thursday. "Any alternative side-battles will eventually serve the enemy's expansionist plans and imperialist designs."

Damascus has been a staunch Arab ally of Iran throughout its seven-year conflict with Iraq. Syrian media have repeatedly urged the convening of an Arab summit to discuss both the Arab-Israeli issue and the Gulf.

"How can there be a summit when Arabs have failed to reconcile Damascus and Baghdad?" asked one analyst in Damascus.

"How can they achieve a breakthrough on (Palestinian) land for (Israeli) peace when half the Arab nation is involved with the Gulf crisis?"

King urges strong stand

(Continued from page 1)

also expressed hope that an improvement in relations between Iraq and Syria could help end the seven-year-old Gulf war.

Defending Iraqi air raids on Iranian shipping, the King said: "If Iranian targets in the Gulf were to be excluded from Iraqi attack, Iran could then export more oil unhindered and translate that into weapons to continue the war."

"It is very imperative the Arab World takes a very strong stand against Iran at this point in negotiations over a ceasefire," the King said referring to Resolution 598 of the U.N. Security Council and efforts by Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to have Iran accept it.

Iraq has said it is willing to accept Resolution 598 provided Iran does likewise. Mr. Perez de Cuellar is expected to visit Iraq and Iraq later this week in a bid to secure a clear Iranian response to the resolution. Tehran has only said that it does not accept or reject the resolution.

On Jordan's stand towards the increasing military presence of the U.S. and other world powers in the Arabian Gulf, the King said: "All these powers have clear and specific objectives in the Gulf. However, if securing freedom of navigation is an important goal in the short term, the ultimate objective should remain that of a total end to the war as soon as possible."

The King said the Iranian regime constituted a long-term threat to all governments in the Gulf and Arab states. "There is no doubt that we are extremely worried (about Iran's intentions)," he said. "We believe that (Iran) is trying to destroy Iraq because (Iraq) is a strong Arab country that stands in Iran's way. In other words, Iraq is blocking Iran from achieving its goals. These goals, in my view, include taking control over the region's resources and Islamic holy places."

The King expressed shock at Iranian attempts to politicise the pilgrimage to Mecca and said the Iranian-organised riots in the Holy City on July 31 "created panic in the Arab World. Even the (Gulf) war, which has been raging for over seven years, could not create such panic."

"Moreover," he said, "Iran's threat to send 100,000 pilgrims to Mecca next year is an issue which we take seriously since it is viewed as an Iranian attempt to politicise the annual pilgrimage and exploit the occasion to propagate extremist ideas," the King said.

The King expressed total support for measures adopted by the Saudi government to contain the Iranian riots in Mecca. "Saudi Arabia, being responsible for Mecca, has every right to prevent Iran from exploiting the pilgrimage as a political event. The Arabs have no alternative but to take appropriate measures to stop violence and chaos from taking place in the holiest of Islamic shrines," he said.

Iraq criticises EC declaration on Gulf

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has criticised a statement by the European Community (EC) on Thursday deploring increased hostilities in the Gulf.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Sunday that the EC declaration put the Iraqi and Iranian attitude to the U.N. Gulf war ceasefire demand on an equal footing.

He said the Danish chairman, as the EC representative in Baghdad, was summoned to the ministry on Saturday and told that such an attitude had always encouraged Iran to continue its "war-mongering policy."

The spokesman called on EC states to shoulder their responsibility and press Iran to accept peace, on the basis of the July 25 Security Council Resolution.

The EC statement condemned recent attacks on merchant ships in the Gulf and said the 12 member-states were "seriously concerned by the continuation of the Iraq-Iran conflict and the resulting increase in tension in the Gulf."

Al Anba, which is subject to government censorship, said the Arabic speakers of western Iraq were shocked by the EC statement.

Paper urges liberation front for Iranian Arabs

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwait newspaper Sunday called on Arabs to form a "liberation front" to fight for independence for Arabic-speaking peoples in western Iraq.

"The eastern coast of the Gulf is also Arab and Arab tribes around there and only recently flourished in Arab emirates," wrote Al Anba in an editorial.

"Why do we leave (Iranian) Revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini to jump on us on the western shores of the Arabian peninsula when we have the power to jump on him on the eastern shores?" it asked.

Kuwait says Iran has fired three missiles at its territory in the last five days, apparently fulfilling threats to retaliate against allies of its war foe Iraq for Iraqi air strikes on its economic facilities.

Al Anba, which is subject to government censorship, said the Arabic speakers of western Iraq were shocked by the EC statement.

escorting reflagged Kuwaiti tankers through the war-torn area.

Webb, who unsuccessfully opposed the buildup during discussions in the Pentagon, declined through a spokesman to comment to the newspaper on Friday.

Mr. Weinberger also could not be reached for comment, the paper reported. Robert B. Sims, Mr. Weinberger's assistant secretary of defence for public affairs, said he had no reason to think Webb opposed the policy.

The disclosure comes at a time when 28 U.S. warships and nearly the same number of military ves-

sels from France, Britain and the Soviet Union have journeyed to the Gulf.

The memo argued that the military effort to keep the sea lanes open should involve U.S. allies and other countries in the region and that the U.S. should play a less prominent role, the newspaper said, quoting unidentified Pentagon sources who had read it.

Mr. Weinberger responded with a memo that said the United States achieved a victory every time a commercial ship passed safely through the Gulf, the Herald reported.

U.S. Navy chief's 'memo attacks Gulf policy'

MIAMI (AP) — Navy Secretary James Webb, in a strongly worded memo to Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, opposed the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf, according to a published report Sunday.

The Miami Herald reported that Webb criticised the policy because he said the United States lacks a clear military objective in the Gulf. He also said the country lacks the public's support and cooperation from allies in the region.

Pentagon officials said the top-secret memo, written in July, was a forceful attack on the policy of

other politicians have criticised Mr. Ozal's handling of the economy and have tried to make the referendum a vote of confidence in the government.

Mr. Ozal could face a rough time politically if Mr. Demirel, conservative, and Social Democrat Ecevit return to active politics.

Opinion polls show the popular Mr. Ozal, architect of Turkey's economic liberalisation, would win an election held now.

Sudan's foreign minister resigns

CAIRO (AP) — Sudan's Foreign Minister Mohammed Tewfik said that he had tendered his resignation because of the collapse of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's coalition government last month.

The Middle East News Agency (MENA) carried Mr. Ahmad's comments in a dispatch from the Sudanese capital Khartoum Saturday.

Last month, Mr. Mahdi's centrist Umma Party and its coalition partner, the centrist Democratic Unionist Party (DUP), dissolved their 16-month-old government.

U.S. ambassador 'told Iraq' to stop Gulf tanker attacks

LONDON (R) — The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations said on Sunday he told his Iraqi counterpart in strong terms that Iraq should stop its air war against Gulf shipping.

"I spoke very strongly to the Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations about the need to cease and desist from these attacks in the Gulf," envoy Gen. Vernon Walters said in a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) interview from Washington.

He denied British press reports that the United States had encouraged Iraq to launch air raids against tankers carrying Iranian oil as a means of forcing Tehran to accept a U.N.-proposed ceasefire in the seven-year-old Gulf war.

Iraq has said its aircraft attacked three Iranian tankers in less than 24 hours as part of an

offensive against Gulf shipping begun on Aug. 29.

Gen. Walters, a senior diplomatic trouble-shooter, said he did not believe the increased U.S. naval presence in the Gulf would necessarily lead to hostilities with Iraq.

"Irrational though the present rulers of Iran are, they've been unable to defeat Iraq — a country one-quarter the population of Iran in a seven-year war," Gen. Walters said.

"Now, if I were a commander and I found myself in that situation, I'm not sure I would be looking for additional enemies to fight."

Gen. Walters said the situation in the area was volatile but "when you are dealing with irrational people, every moment is dangerous — even if there were no ships in the Gulf."

Pregnant Lebanese held in Cyprus after drug find

LARNACA, Cyprus (R) — A pregnant woman from Lebanon's Bekaa Valley drug-growing area was remanded in custody on Sunday after Larnaca airport police found a kilo (2.2 pounds) of heroin taped to her body.

Larnaca district court heard that police did not yet know if Nabla Awad, 21, from Baalbeck, was related to the two children with her and her companion Ahmad Murad, 40, also from Baalbeck.

Police said the group arrived by ship from Lebanon in August.

The heroin was found in nylon bags taped to Awad's body as they prepared to board a flight to Frankfurt on Saturday.

Awad, seven months pregnant, said in a court statement that the heroin belonged to Murad. She said he intended to take it to the United States via Mexico in return for \$10,000.

Murad made no statement and the court remanded the two in custody for eight days. The two children were taken to a Cypriot family in Larnaca to be looked after.

Spy chiefs arrive in Cyprus expecting release of Waite

LONDON (R) — Spy chiefs from eight nations are on the island of Cyprus this weekend, preparing for the release of Lebanon hostages Terry Waite and John McCarthy, the Sunday Express newspaper said in an early edition.

It said top intelligence officials in London had disclosed Mr. Waite, 48, the Church of England envoy captured on Jan. 20, and Mr. McCarthy, 29, a British journalist seized 17 months ago, could be released within days.

Foreign Office said it could shed no light on the report.

The newspaper said secret agents from Syria, Britain, the United States, France, West Germany, Italy, Israel and the Soviet Union were on the Mediterranean island — a 20-minute helicopter flight from Beirut — preparing for "sensational developments."

It quoted its sources as saying that there appeared to be some substance to a Kuwait report last Tuesday that Mr. Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, would be released within 10 days.

Israeli police arrest 29 in clash during Sabbath protest

TEL AVIV (R) — Police have arrested 29 people in the most violent clashes yet with ultra-orthodox Jews protesting against the showing of films on Friday nights.

One demonstrator was wounded in the head and a baby was overcome by fumes on Saturday as police used clubs and tear gas to disperse Jews objecting to the screening of films on the grounds that they desecrate the Sabbath, which runs from sunset on Friday until Saturday night.

The number of arrests and injuries was the highest since demonstrations began a month ago.

An army medical assistant and a woman driver were injured by stone-throwing religious protesters.

About 100 police on foot and a dozen on horseback charged into

a crowd of 500 religious protesters who shouted "Shabbas, Shabbas" (Sabbath), and beat them with clubs.

The protesters, many of them children, changed their cries to "Nazis, Nazis" as they scurried away, leaving the street littered with skulls which fell from their heads in the fray.

Police fired tear gas at a group of men and dragged them away by the collars of their long coats.

In demonstrations in other parts of the city, police hosed protesters with water coloured with green dye.

Ultra-orthodox Jews, who comprise a quarter of the city's population, have previously forced the closure of roads, burned down bus shelters bearing advertisements of women's swimwear and blocked the building of a soccer stadium.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel. 711119

PROGRAMME ONE
15.30 News
15.45 News
15.55 News and children's programmes

16.30 Silver Spoons
17.30 The Wonderful World of Disney
18.30 Arabesque
19.30 Arabesque
20.30 Arabesque
21.30 Arabesque
22.30 Arabesque
23.30 Arabesque

PROGRAMME TWO
18.30 Rue Comode
19.30 La Carrière de M. de M...
20.30 Sport magazine (French)
21.30 News in Arabic
22.30 News in Arabic
23.30 News in Arabic
24.30 News in Arabic

RADIO JORDAN
KHE, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 99 MHz, SW
Tel. 711119

07.30 News
08.30 News
09.30 News
10.30 News
11.30 News
12.30 News
13.30 News
14.30 News
15.30 News
16.30 News
17.30 News
18.30 News
19.30 News
20.30 News
21.30 News
22.30 News
23.30 News

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of plastic art by Mohammed Al Kwasani at the House Bank Gallery (until Sept. 15).

* A North Korean photo exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Sept. 7).

* A Scientific exhibition at the University of Jordan from Sept. 6 - 10.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 6610297
American Centre . Tel. 641571
British Council . Tel. 6361478
French Cultural Centre . Tel. 637009
German Institute . Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre . Tel. 644203
Spanish Cultural Centre . Tel. 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre . Tel. 639777
Haya Arts Centre . Tel. 665105
Haya Youth City . Tel. 601816
Y.W.C.A. . Tel. 641793
Y.W.M.C.A. . Tel. 664251
Jordan Municipal Library . Tel. 637111
Univ. of Jordan Library . Tel. 843335

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lioness Philanthropic Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Lweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Terra Sancta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Lweibdeh, mass in Italian language, meet every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623341.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 623383.
Armenian Catholic Church Astrafbeh, Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Astrafbeh, Tel. 772661.
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Astrafbeh, Tel. 771751.
Armenian International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiye, Tel. 677534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Amman, Arabic Service: Sunday 7:00 p.m., 19:00 p.m. English Service: Sunday 10:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m., Tel. 811225.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (98) 32200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

16:15 Agaba (RJ)
16:15 Cairo (RJ)
16:20 Larnaca (RJ)
16:30 Damascus (RJ)
16:30 Muscat, Dubai (RJ)
16:35 Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
16:40 Bahrain, Doha (GF)
16:45 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
16:50 New York, Vienna (RJ)
16:55 Athens (RJ)
17:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
17:10 Bucharest (RJ)
17:15 Bangkok (RJ)
17:20 Baghdad (RJ)
17:25 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
17:30 Dubai (add.) (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

16:20 Sana'a (LF)
16:20 Baghdad (RJ)
16:25 Cairo (RJ)
16:30 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
16:35 Kuwait (KU)
16:40 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
16:45 Beirut (ME)
16:50 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES
ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

06:00 Agaba (RJ)
06:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
06:15 Bucharest (RJ)
06:20 Paris (RJ)
06:25 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
06:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
06:35 Cairo (RJ)
06:40 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
06:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
06:50 Baghdad (RJ)
06:55 Jeddah (RJ)
07:00 Dubai (add.) (RJ)
07:05 Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
07:10 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate . 891228
Amman Civil Defence . 188, 199
Civil Defence Irbid . 271293, 273131
Civil Defence Quesneish . 770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla . 57306
Ambulance . 195, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade . 188
First aid . 630341
Blood Bank . 778303
Civil Defence rescue . 661111
Fire headquarters . 622083
Police rescue . 192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters . 639141
Traffic police . 893001
Electric Power Co. . 636381, 624881
Municipal water complaint . 771258
Queen Alia Int. Airport . (08)533069

GENERAL

Jordan Television . 775111/19
Radio Jordan . 774111/19
Ministry of Tourism . 625111
Hotel complaints . 664412
Price complaints . 661176
Telephone information . 12
Jordan and Middle East calls . 10
Overseas calls . 17
Repair service . 11

MONEY EXCHANGE

Sunday rates

Belgian franc . 90.8 / 91.9
Dutch guilder . 167.4 / 168.9
French franc . 56.4 / 56.9
Italian lire . 26 / 26.3
Japanese yen (for 100) . 238.2 / 241.2
Swedish crown . 53.6 / 54.2
Swiss franc . 27.1 / 27.9
U.K. sterling pound . 59.4 / 56.4
U.S. dollar . 338.9 / 342
W. German mark . 188.3 / 190.5

PRAYER TIMES

04:56 Fair
06:16 (Sunrise) Daba
12:34 Dhulh
16:06 'Astr
18:52 Maghreb
20:12 Isha

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre . 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn . 644281/6
Al-Badr Maternity, J. Amn . 64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity . 642425
Malhas, J. Amman . 636140
Palestine, Shamsiye . 664171/4
Shamsiye Hospital . 669131
University Hospital . 845845
Al-Musharraf Hospital . 6672719
The Islamic, Abdali . 6671751
Al-Ahli, Abdali . 664164/5
Italian, Al-Muhajreen . 777103/3
Al-Badr, J. Astrafbeh . 775111/26
Arzy, Marja . 891611/15
Queens Alia Hospital . 6224050
Amal Hospital . 674135

TAXIS

Khalid taxi . 623775
Jerusalem taxi . 639665
Hebron taxi . 776100
Beisan taxi . 893435
Na'ud taxi . 596234
Al Salah taxi . 773993
Shayba taxi . 666319
Kurdi taxi . 847572

IRBIDS

Dr. Abdul Majid Al Sabahin . 275393
Al Hussein pharmacy . 345916

ZARQA

Dr. Mishab Al Hijawi . 981217
Bisal pharmacy . (—)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple (local) . 900 / 700
Banana . 720 / 280
Banana (Makassar) . 320 / 220
Beans . 420 / 380
Cabbage . 150 / 100
Carrot . 300 / 240
Cauliflower . 220 / 160
Cucumbers . 270 / 210
Eggplant (large) . 150 / 120
Eggplant (small) . 200 / 160
Grape . 350 / 300
Figs . 300 / 240
Garlic . 720 / 650
Grapes . 270 / 220

Leimon (green) . 160 / 140
Marrow . 60 / 40
Mushroom . 200 / 240
Olive . 300 / 240
Onion (dry) . 580 / 480
Okra . 240 / 180
Peas . 600 / 500
Pepper (hot) . 180 / 160
Pepper (sweet) . 180 / 160
Potato . 220 / 180
Raddish . 180 / 160
Sweetcorn . 180 / 160
Tomatoes . 150 / 140
Watermelon . 100 / 80

Seminar on construction safety reviews reports

AMMAN (Petra) — Participants in a seminar on safety measures in the construction sector on Sunday reviewed two working papers dealing with safe and proper handling of construction tools and equipment, and health hazards on construction sites.

The first paper underlined the need for basic medical services and sanitation, portable drinking water, and fire fighting equipment which, it said, should be available for workers. The paper stressed the importance of providing means of protection for workers against the dangers of welding flames, and for building protective walls and fences around the digging sites.

Posters and other indicators warning the public and drivers of the presence of pit holes and other dangers on the work site should be installed and remain as long as the project lasts, the paper said.

The report also underlined the important role of engineers and foremen in maintaining safety and precautionary measures, as well as methods for spreading awareness among workers about occupational risk and safety measures.

The second paper reviewed occupational hazards brought on by the unstable volume of workers moving about the work site, and also the effects of weather on these workers. The paper also referred to common, but serious construction accidents, such as workers falling from high places and building materials and equipment dropping on workers during construction operations.

It also referred to the need for educating workers about the dangers of electricity, and gas cylinders, the use of explosive materials, in addition to skin diseases, strokes, and other health hazards to which workers are normally exposed.

The paper also emphasised the safe and proper use of stable scaffolds, ladders, and various other equipments.

The two-day seminar was opened by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Haj Hassan in Amman on Saturday with a speech, in which he revealed that 28 per cent of the total number of occupational accidents and injuries in 1982 occurred in the construction business.

The seminar was organised by the Jordanian Engineers Association in conjunction with the Industrial Development Bank.



His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, and Minister of Education Thouqan Hindawi, participate in the discussion during the first session of the National Conference on Education.

Education conference centres on system-level reform

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The focus of the first working session of the National Conference on Education, which was opened by His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday, was new strategies to bring about a qualitative improvement in the national educational system.

The participants, including Cabinet members and renowned educational experts and politicians, based their discussion on a two-year report submitted to the conference by the Education Policy Committee.

While part one of the committee's report gave a thorough assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of the compulsory and secondary school systems, part two was dedicated to new working strategies geared at improving the entire education network.

The first session was chaired by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who also is president of the conference.

A number of educators taking part in the deliberations discussed the reasoning behind suggesting a new infrastructure for the present compulsory school system. Under the suggested system, the compulsory school years would become ten instead of nine, and children attending this segment would have to be between six and 16 years of age.

The present three-year secondary stage would be reduced to two years, and students attending this programme would be between 16 and 18 years of age. Students would be admitted to the two-year secondary programme after they pass a special qualification test which would entitle

them to either venture into studying a general educational programme with emphasis on sciences, literature, or another academic field, or they would enter the vocational training programme.

Asked whether the new infrastructure would be adopted for the present 1987-1988 scholastic year if the conference endorses the suggestion, Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Director Munther Al Masri replied negatively.

"The suggestion would need at least a year from now; if endorsed, to be implemented," Dr. Masri told the Jordan Times.

Dr. Masri added that the government would not have to increase its subsidy on education if this system is executed, since it would not increase the number of school years from the present 12-year system.

Amin Shaqir, a veteran politician and writer questioned the committee's study, saying it had failed to focus on how to build the responsible citizen.

Students, Mr. Shaqir said, have to be educated to know their rights, to speak out on their opinions, and to respect opposing view points.

Other participants suggested that schools be given the right to choose their own educational texts from a selection of such books

instead of adhering to the official curricula.

Leila Sharaf, former information minister, said that the educational process should focus more on teaching students how to search for information rather than memorising what the text books say.

Some of the conferees also called for coordination among the Ministry of Education and various other portfolios and government institutions in order to help the schoolchildren obtain a more thorough education and a more comprehensive outlook.

Prince Hassan, who has been extensively involved in reforming the educational system through supervising the works of the committee and by making field trips to various schools to meet their teachers and students, again called on the conferees to base their recommendations on a scientific approach.

The Crown Prince said he expected the Education Ministry to set up a technical arm or a research centre to help in implementing the conference's highly anticipated suggestions for educational reform, and to do updated studies which consider the future changes and their implications for the educational system.

He said that interaction among all levels and sectors of the society was an essential aspect of the success of any proposed national scheme.

The Crown Prince told the participants, the majority of whom have been working for the national committee's report, to keep up with this constructive spirit of work when implementing the resolutions.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet names mayor, approves memoranda

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has appointed Mr. Hamad Hussein Abu Mdeires as mayor of Kramieh in the northern Jordan Valley. The Cabinet also approved the exchange of memoranda between Jordan and Britain over a loan agreement in which Jordan will obtain £10 million. The loan will help finance the implementation of projects contained in the 1986-1990 five year plan.

Transport minister inspects Aqaba port

AQABA (Petra) — Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan on Sunday visited the port city of Aqaba and met with the director of the port, Eid Al Fayez. Later the minister inspected parts of the port facilities and called at an office which coordinates transportation procedures between Aqaba and Iraq. Mr. Fayez earlier chaired a meeting of the board of directors of the Jordanian Ports Corporation to discuss a general budget for 1988. After the meeting, Mr. Fayez said that the board decided to squeeze the capital projects for the coming year, and they will submit the draft budget to the General Budget Department for approval.

Engineering faculty to organise exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — The Engineering and Technology Faculty of the University of Jordan will organise an exhibition of engineering products, materials, and equipment manufactured in Jordan, in the course of its current silver jubilee celebrations. Dr. Bassam Abu Ghazaleh, dean of the Students Affairs Department, said that the 20 local firms will participate in the exhibition to be held on campus. There will also be two seminars on engineering and on chemical industries, satellite communications, energy, and architecture in Jordan. Dr. Abu Ghazaleh noted.

6,000 tonnes of bad food destroyed

ZARQA (Petra) — A total of 6,000 tonnes of food supplies and canned food was destroyed here Sunday after being found unfit for human consumption. Mr. Badri Bahaudin, chairman of the municipality's committee, said that the food supplies were seized during inspection tours of stores and food shops conducted by health authorities in Zarqa. He said that inspection tours will continue, and that violators of health regulations will be referred to court for trial. He also urged members of the public to report on stores which sell bad food.

Energy minister opens physics session

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib on Sunday underlined the importance of the projected higher council on science and technology in Jordan. He said that such council should draft a general policy on science and define priorities in scientific research projects and studies that can serve national development plans.



Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib addresses the Sunday opening of the Petra School of Physics session (Petra photo).

Dr. Khatib was addressing the opening session of the fourth meeting of the Petra School of Physics held at the University of Jordan. The minister was deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

The new council, which will soon be operational, is expected to set up scientific research centres, to direct research work in all institutions, and to finance their projects, which should conform to the needs of the Kingdom, Dr. Khatib said.

Dr. Khatib called on all Jordanian physicists to expand their contacts with their colleagues abroad, and to enlist their help in promoting the work of the Petra School of Physics.

The meeting was opened by University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who said

that the Petra School of Physics could be regarded as a forum for intellectuals and scientists to exchange views and information.

He called on other Arab countries to join in the efforts being made by the Petra School of Physics to promote cooperation among scientists in the Arab World.

Dr. Ahmad Salem, chairman of a preparatory committee for the meeting, said that this year

the school is mainly concerned with discussing magnetism, magnetic materials, and their application in different fields.

The Petra School of Physics conducts scientific activity and organises lectures and seminars in its annual meetings. Dr. Salem said. He added that the participants in this year's session will submit 15 research papers to be reviewed during the eight-day meeting.

Jordanian teachers arrive in Oman

MUSCAT (Petra) — A new batch of 134 Jordanian men and women teachers have arrived here to take up their jobs as teachers in Omani schools in accordance with contracts signed by Oman and Jordan.

Cultural attaché at the Jordanian embassy here, Mr. Ali Jadou, said that the teachers will be employed in schools opening for the 1987-1988 scholastic year. The arrival of the teachers, he said, is in implementation of cultural agreements signed by the two countries, and in keeping with a policy of bolstering bilateral relations in all fields.

Customs bulletin reveals decrease in revenues

AMMAN (Petra) — The Customs Department has released a bulletin showing that its overall revenues in the first half of 1987 amounted to JD 101 million compared to JD 108.7 million in the first half of 1986.

The bulletin, published on Friday, also revealed that fees collected by the customs offices around the Kingdom in the first half of 1987 dropped by eight per cent over those collected in the same period of 1986. The bulletin attributed the drop in the volume of revenues to a decline in the importation of commodities which have high

customs fees.

The bulletin said also that in the first half of 1986 there were a total of 3,167 cases of violations of customs regulations with fines totalling JD 267,116. In the first six months of 1987 the cases rose to 3,953, and the department collected JD 425,635 in fines.

In addition, the bulletin revealed that during the first half of 1987, there was a drop of 4 per cent in the number of smuggling cases from the same period of 1986. It said there were 1,860 cases of smuggling in the first half of 1986, compared with 1,606 in 1987.

Envoy hails King's solidarity efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — Egypt's ambassador to Jordan, Ihab Wabbeh, on Sunday voiced his country's appreciation of His Majesty King Hussein's continued efforts to bring about solidarity among Arab states in the face of common dangers. The ambassador was speaking at a meeting with Ministry of Foreign Affairs Secretary General Nabih Al Nimer.

The two officials discussed developments in the Arab arena and the developments in the Gulf region, with special attention to the current Arab and international efforts to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 598, which calls for an end to the conflict.

ARAMCO donates to university

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab American Oil Company (ARAMCO) has made a donation of \$50,000 to the University of Jordan to assist projects undertaken by the Faculty of Agriculture.

An announcement said that a cheque for the sum was handed to University President Abdul Salam Al Majali by the ARAMCO representative in Amman.

Jordan Valley Authority works to make irrigation water available

DEIR ALLA (J.T.) — The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) is exerting all efforts to make available sufficient water resources for irrigating lands in the Jordan Valley. The JVA is in constant contact with other government departments in the valley to coordinate work related to the distribution of water and providing other necessary services to the local inhabitants. JVA acting President Mohammad Bani Hani said here Sunday.

Speaking at a meeting with a large group of farmers from the Jordan Valley region, Dr. Bani Hani also said that there will be a fair distribution of water for irrigation, and that the JVA will prevent any unfair manipulation in this regard, so that the rights of all concerned farmers and vegetable growers can be safeguarded.

The JVA, he added, is working to improve pumping operations and maintenance so that it may provide better services.

Dr. Bani Hani touched on several topics concerning housing units, irrigation problems, and organisational issues in the valley. He said that the problem of housing units requires close cooperation between JVA and the local inhabitants, and calls for a re-examination of the present JVA policy for finding proper solutions. The JVA is working on this problem, and hopes to find solutions for the housing problem in the Jordan Valley, Dr. Bani Hani noted.

The meeting was attended also by heads of municipal and village councils in the Jordan Valley. Dr. Bani Hani urged these leaders to assist in preventing infringement on state-owned property by members of the public. "Heads of local councils are called on to

cooperate with the JVA to put an end to such practices and to safeguard public interests," the JVA director said.

Referring to the agricultural units in the Jordan Valley, Dr. Bani Hani said that the authority will issue specific and strict instructions on the distribution on these units. The instructions and regulations to be set by JVA are intended to safeguard the rights of all people and land owners, Dr. Bani Hani added.

This was the first reported,

major meeting by Dr. Bani Hani with Jordan Valley farmers since he assumed his temporary post in July, replacing the former JVA president, Dr. Munther Hadadin.

The JVA takes charge of all matters related to housing, agriculture, and school building, social affairs, and other services in the Jordan Valley region. Sunday's meeting was attended by the local district governor, heads of local government departments, and farmer representatives.

Parliamentarians end talks after drafting proposals

DAMASCUS (Petra) — A three-member Jordanian parliamentary delegation has concluded its meetings with Syrian parliamentarians on the issue of the bylaws of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) charter. The talks were conducted, over the past few days, with specialised committees from the Syrian People's Council, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The Jordanian delegation was led by Rizek Al Bataineh, who said that agreement was reached during the talks on the final formulae of the amendment proposals. These amendments are deemed necessary, under the present circumstances, to cope with on-going events in the Arab World.

The Jordanian and Syrian parliamentarians will submit these proposed amendments to the APU conference due to be held in Tunis in November, Mr.

Bataineh noted.

He said that the Jordanian-Syrian talks covered other issues on the agenda of the up-coming conference, as well as several subjects which will be dealt with by the Interparliamentary Union in its scheduled session, to be held in Bangkok this coming month.

The Jordanian delegation includes: Mr. Salman Al Qudah, chairman of the Legal Committee in the Lower House of Parliament and Mr. Zaid Zureiqat, the director of House parliamentary affairs, in addition to Mr. Bataineh, who chairs the House's Foreign Affairs Committee.

During their visit, the delegation members were received by the speaker of the Syrian People's Council, Mr. Mahmoud Al Zo'bi, with whom they discussed means for promoting Jordanian-Syrian parliamentary cooperation.

Aqaba to host International Underwater Photography Contest

By Nermeen Murad
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanians will have a chance to participate in this year's International Underwater Photography Contest, which will be held in Aqaba and the Isle of Pharaoh at the end of this month.

"International Blue Aqaba 1987" will host a number of contestants from all over the world, both professional or amateur photographers, and Jordan will be officially participating for the first time since the establishment of the contest four years ago.

This contest falls within a plan, initiated by the Ministry of Tourism in cooperation with the Royal Jordanian Airline, which aims at promoting and utilising all touristic areas in Jordan.

The city of Aqaba, with its beautiful sand beaches and moderate weather all the year round, apart from boasting a rich variety of coral and fish species unequalled anywhere else in the world, was chosen by Nautilus Club Association, Roma, as the new

diving destination to host the underwater photography contest. After Aqaba, competitors will move on to the Isle of Pharaoh, on the southeast coast of the Sinai Peninsula, where the rich Red Sea waters will offer further attractions for the diving photographers.

The contest will be held over two three-day periods, in Aqaba from Sept. 28 - 30, and in Sinai from Oct. 1-5.

The Nautilus Association Extempore Underwater Photography Contest admits all amateur and professional photographers without prior selection, but the professional photographers will participate in a separate category.

The contestants are allowed to use all the lenses, filters, and illuminators that they require, and all divers must bring their own diving equipment, except diving tanks and weight belts, which will be provided by Aqaba's International Diving Centre and Nautilus Assoc.

Each competitor will be given two 135/36 colour slides, Scotch 35 film, 100 ASA, and each competitor will have 5 hours to hand in his or her exposed films specially marked by the organising committee.

The competitor is to choose three of his or her best slides for each of the two programmed sections, Aqaba and the Isle of Pharaoh. These selected photos will later be given to the Nautilus Association, who will, in turn, use them for cultural programmes to benefit a UNICEF campaign.

The rules of the contest also include: divers must have scuba diving skill and, in addition, they must be aware that the organising committee will not be liable for any accidents which occur before, during, or after the period of the contest.

"International Blue Aqaba 1987" is being sponsored by the Ministry of Tourism and Royal Jordanian, and is organised by Nautilus Club Association, Roma, and Aqua Marina Hotel Club in Aqaba.

King calls for qualitative reform in education

(Continued from page 1)

answered clearly and honestly while in the process of establishing the basis for a new educational policy, the King told the conferees.

"We are living within an international order that has its own systems and institutions such as the United Nations and its agencies," the King said. "These institutions are trying to confirm the concept of the common human destiny through attempts to resolve conflicts and achieve peace or in efforts to develop societies and establishing interaction between people and their cultures."

He pointed out that international institutions and agencies "are not enough, because they tackle development issues in their general framework and cannot handle and deal with individual problems of each nation."

"From here stems the importance of the role of each society to develop its citizens in a way that enables them to sense the beat of the times and comprehend it along with the requirements for adjustment," the King said. "The education institution in each country bears most of the burden of responsibility in this area."

Referring to the process of developing the Kingdom's education policy, the King stressed the need for a comprehensive review and assessment of the reality of the existing education system in a scientific way.

He urged flexibility and open mind in the process of establishing a new order. "Rigidity and stagnation are the enemies of life. A stale knowledge also ends by fading," the King said.

In an apparent reference to an ongoing debate over a controversial Ministry of Higher Education law discouraging Jordanians from pursuing higher education in certain fields, the King said people should look beyond degrees in their development.

"A doctorate degree should not be the ultimate goal. It is the bridge that takes us to new horizons in knowledge," he added. "Degrees in general," he added, "should not be just a licence to get a job. For if it were that, knowledge would have stopped at a certain point in history, life would have frozen and so would have human development."

The King said Jordan had made a great investment in the field of education by building schools all over the Kingdom, setting up universities and other cultural outlets as well as establishing programmes for vocational training and social development projects.

"The result was that we have developed and achieved a lot and our Kingdom has become an example in successful planning," the King said. "We have reached high levels of growth that surpasses most Third World countries."

However, the King warned, "Satisfaction (with such achievements) would be the beginning of recession that causes retreat."

"Perhaps," he added, "what is equal to our achievements is the experience itself and the lessons that we need to absorb in order to cross into a new phase in our development."

The King said Jordan lacked an essential element in the land-population formula, saying that the Kingdom lacked material/

natural resources, especially water, while on the other hand, the population growth was one of the highest in the world.

"This creates an additional imbalance in the population-land formula at the expense of the standard of living for citizens," he said. "This does not mean we have to surrender to this fact."

The King explained that work should focus on a better utilisation of available resources. "We are talking about the productive citizen," he said.

Without this development, "every newborn would be just a new number and a new burden that is added to the family and society at a time when we are facing a high rate of population growth."

In his assessment of the reasons behind the present imbalances between the products of the Jordanian education system and the real needs of the society, the King said trends that were caused by shortages in educated people and subsequently prompting a great increase in people seeking education on all levels had not yet been reversed.

"This resulted in social norms and values that remained evident even after the end of the previous era and very few were aware of the inevitable change," the King said. "Those who were not aware of the changes maintained the same order of priorities in terms of specialisation in education. All those who finished the secondary phase wanted a university education."

The King said that over the last 25 years, the education system had failed in the area of national and physical education despite

several attempts to develop in these areas. "We have also witnessed a clear decline in the level of our national and foreign languages. This decline in the national language education level results in weakening of our civilisation and the decline in learning foreign languages closes windows of interaction with the rest of the world."

The King said shaping humans was different from manufacturing other products, in terms of returns for the society. "The cost of a mistake in the education policy on the long run is calculated not by only what was spent on the student, but also by the cost the society pays because of the student's low productivity in the future."

"You must be aware," the King told the conferees, "that review and reform of the educational system and policy will not be seasonal, but should continue with the various stages of its implementation. This is why there should be an agreement on the mechanism for implementation."

At the outset of the two-day conference, Education Minister Thouqan Hindawi delivered a speech in which he said that the conference was characterised by a comprehensive and objective look in handling all aspects of the education process in a sound scientific style and with a calm and constructive treatment and deep and extensive research. He said the government's effort in this field were greatly helped by effective participation and field work by Crown Prince Hassan whom he thanked for his contribution to the collective effort.

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Guidelines for reform

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein's speech yesterday at the opening of the National Conference on Education will surely be categorised as one of the King's most important national speeches yet. Its historic relevance and significance can be attributed first and foremost to its civilisational dimension, which cogently touched upon nearly all aspects of life in the Kingdom, as well as Jordan's interaction with other civilisational forces on a global basis.

In laying down principles for reviewing and reforming Jordan's educational system, His Majesty aptly presented our system from both a national and an international perspective. After poignantly referring to man as the most valuable resource that we possess, King Hussein proceeded in yesterday's speech to say that it was high time, indeed, to subject the educational system in Jordan to the kind of review and reformation that the other dimensions of life in Jordan had undergone already. The King also instructed our educators and academicians that their re-evaluation of the educational programme must be guided by four main concerns, all of which are equally significant; and, when combined, they form a complementary and indispensable system of goals.

Whether one highlights His Majesty's call to accord spirituality and religion their due in our reformations to be introduced to our educational system, or his observation that we in Jordan live in an interdependent world where we should strive to preserve our national identity, as well as remain receptive to the outside world and its positive messages and contributions, one deals with issues which are highly interconnected. "We are all partners in one human global drama," King Hussein reminded the audience during the opening of the conference. In this human global drama we all share common problems and face common challenges. Each of us, in this small world of ours, contributes in his or her special way and capacity, the King reminded the Jordanian academicians and educators. And, in advocating a new educational system for Jordan, His Majesty cautioned the nation that, whatever educational system that we introduce and adopt, it should be a flexible and dynamic one capable of adapting to the developments of a changing world.

The King's speech also addressed local and indigenous problems and concerns in education by incorporating the need to draw an equitable balance between man and his resources and conditions. His Majesty called on our policymakers in education, as well as on our children and, indeed, their parents and families, to choose wisely the educational pursuits of our youth to assure optimum harmony between man in Jordan and his environment in the broadest sense.

But, above all, King Hussein's address to the National Conference on Education reminded Jordanians that the educational institution in Jordan is the single most important catalyst for transformation in the country, and that it embodies within it the seeds that will determine our collective future. The form and quality of education which will be made available to our younger generations now, and in the future, will surely decide our fate and place among the community of nations and peoples. To paraphrase the words of His Majesty, we in Jordan do not live on an island where we can indulge in pursuits in an international vacuum. Rather, we should be prepared to give and take, to contribute and learn in a continuous process which will keep our giant door of *ijtihad* scrupulously open. Our current review and reformation shall be continuous and not an isolated event or a rare episode or phenomenon. King Hussein demanded. These are heartening words, and we must do our best — officials, educators, and citizens alike — to respond to this demand.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Exemplary cooperation

AFTER 35 years of waiting and near loss of hope, Jordan and Syria have been able to take the first step in the long march towards building the Wadih Dam with the conclusion of an agreement in Amman last Thursday to jointly exploit the water of Yarmouk River. The deal does not only reflect the two countries' desire to launch joint action for further prospects, but it also reflects their determination to overcome difficulties and the role of sabotage which the Israeli enemy had tried to play against its Arab neighbours and their cooperation in economic and political fields. It is a success over all conspiracies against Arab coordination and Arab development, and will have its far-reaching effects on the Arab World as a whole. Jordan started thinking seriously about exploiting the potential wealth of Yarmouk River in 1952 but the Israelis have been obstructing steps taken in this direction and have been trying to steal Arab water. The Arabs still remember Israel's conspiracies to block the construction of Khafra Al Walid dam and its raid on that dam in the 1967 aggression. The agreement reached on Thursday on building the dam represents a political as well as an economic decision, coming as a fruit of Jordanian-Syrian cooperation.

Al Dustour: Israel terrorises Lebanon

ISRAEL'S brutal air raid on Ain Al Hilweh launched Saturday inflicted heavy casualties on the Palestinian refugees and showed beyond doubt that the Israelis still maintain their terrorist policies which they had started decades ago. This massacre committed by Zionists without any provocation, represents another dangerous escalation of the situation in the Middle East, and is another move to aggravate the sufferings and the ordeal of tens of thousands of refugees who have been evicted from their homeland by the use of force. The fresh raid which caused the death and injury of tens of men, women and children did not come as a reply to resistance activity in South Lebanon or occupied Palestine. It was a crime committed in cold blood without any justification and only for the sake of getting rid of Palestinians everywhere. Blinded and drunk with its military superiority and tempted by a weak and divided Arab World, Israel has been pursuing a policy of killing and destroying all that which can be related to Palestinian people.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israeli aggression

SINCE the establishment of the Jewish state in Palestine Israel's terrorist and aggressive actions have never stopped. The latest such aggression was directed Saturday on Ain Al Hilweh refugee camp on the outskirts of Sidon in South Lebanon. The raid was encouraged by the weak Arab World and the absence of any power to deter the enemy from committing further acts of aggression on Arab people. The raids were encouraged by the lack of peace which Israel has been careful to avoid, and as a result, of deep Zionist belief that continued aggression and continued terrorism will finally impose a de facto solution on the Arabs and will fulfil Zionism's dreams. Every time Israel launches air raids on the camps and the Arab towns and cities tens of innocent people fall victim.

Step by step Arab economic integration

By Dr. Waleed Sadi

THE fact that the Gulf Cooperation Council has succeeded where the Arab League system has failed coupled with the observation that some Arab countries in various regions of the Arab World, i.e., North Africa and the Near East, are separately forging their own arrangements or associations in economic matters, demonstrate that the road to achieve an overall inter-Arab economic union is through sub-regional economic common markets. The ultimate objective would remain to realise a unitary common market for all the Arab countries under the Arab League umbrella. Such intermediate steps on the path of the ultimate objective of one common market to serve all the Arab World need not be interpreted as a stab in the back of the Arab League system or a serious setback to the whole process of the Arab League. Rather they should be viewed as interim measures which aim to complement the actions undertaken by the League. The League would be expected under the formula suggested above to monitor the sub-regional economic arrangements between the concerned Arab countries with a view to affect a linkage between such sub-regional associations on pragmatic and solid basis. When the final stage of connecting the various Arab economic associations is realised through the direct involvement and participation of the Arab League, the Arab World would have achieved the much aspired for and dreamt about economic unity. Hopefully the realised economic union between the Arab countries could in turn serve as the foundation for the other manifestations of Arab cooperation and coordination especially in the political context.

The proposed route for this stage by stage approach to an overall economic union among the member states of the Arab League would necessitate drawing heavily on the experiences of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the emulation to the greatest extent possible of its Charter and institutions. In this vein one would have thought that Jordan, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon would forge an economic association similar to the one existing between the Arab Gulf states to serve as an interim arrangement leading eventually to the ultimate objective of a general Arab common market. The Maghreb Arab countries could do likewise and establish their own intermediate economic association. There are several Arab sub-regions each with its own peculiar and distinct characteristics and features which in their cumulative aspect warrant an initial and independent association for each and every such sub-region. To repeat any such intermediate and separate economic association will be instituted under the direct guidance and supervision of the Arab League system which shall remain for all times prior to all steps undertaken for the intermediate and final stages of the much aspired for Arab common market linking the Arab Gulf countries

with the Maghreb countries under the aegis of the Arab League system.

One would venture to suggest that the first order of business for any given sub-regional Arab economic association should address the issue and objective of freedom of movement of the peoples affected by any such association. Freedom of movement of peoples entails in the final analysis also freedom of movement of their ideas, modes of transportation and capital. In the physical sense, freedom of movement of people and their modes of transportation would necessarily mean a dignified and efficient processing of entry and exit of the citizens of the member states of the concerned sub-regional Arab associations within their respective sub-region on the basis of identification papers and titles of motor vehicles used for the purpose of their transportation to and from such states. We all have seen how efficient and dignified is the entry and departure procedures instituted between the European countries and how envious we, the Arabs, have become of their "civilised" ways in these contexts. The Arab peoples are entitled now to similar treatment at least when they cross the borders of their own Arab countries and are yearning impatiently for the day when crossing the border of one Arab country into another Arab country would be done with dignity and efficiency. That's why sub-regional associations within the Arab World could offer the first avenue towards the total and overall inter-Arab countries travel with honour and dignity.

Freedom of ideas within the context of this discussion would entail of course freedom of transfer of technology both in its intellectual and mechanical dimensions with a view to affect and realise an equilibrium in the developments of the Arab countries member of any given sub-regional association in all spheres and aspects of human and economic endeavours. Tariff barriers would also have to be dismantled and eliminated between the member Arab states of the sub-regional associations if not in one giant and bold leap then by stages should there be fear that major economic dislocations would ensue should tariff barriers be removed abruptly. Transfers of capital between member states of any given sub-regional Arab association should likewise be facilitated and promoted with minimum restrictions and controls to ensure maximum harmony between the various aspects and manifestations of the sub-regional association. A unitary currency must be envisaged in the final analysis. It goes without saying that the economic and industrial planning in each and every Arab member state of any given sub-regional association must be conducted in due course and within the context of an overall sub-regional

economic and industrial master plan to ensure optimum efficiency and in order to avoid duplication of efforts and endeavours to the greatest extent possible. To be sure all these suggested efforts for economic cooperation and coordination cannot bear fruit without being complemented by a series of other steps and measures which would fall under the category of sub-regional infrastructure building ranging from the elaboration of networks of highways and other forms and modes of communications, electricity lines and water sources all inter connected on a sub-regional basis, at least for the duration of the interim period envisaged here.

Residency and work permits for the citizens of the Arab member countries of the projected sub-regional associations must of course be liberalised within the respective sub-region to the greatest extent possible with a view to accord the objective of freedom of movement of peoples, ideas and capital real value and meaning. Needless to say, the peculiar economic constraints and hardships posed in any Arab member country of any given sub-regional association must be reckoned with and dealt with in the process of executing the policy of liberalised granting of work permits in particular.

The list of issues and objectives that need to be agreed upon in the proposed Arab-regional associations is indeed long and it is certainly outside the scope of this writing to cover them all. Rather the intent of this writer is to dwell on the principle of affecting the sub-regional Arab associations and to elaborate on some of the modalities for rendering them operational on an interim basis. We must not lose sight of the fact at all times that the ultimate objective of affecting and realising a workable general Arab common market is to have one that can function along the same guidelines governing the European Community association. The road to this objective is indeed long and tortuous but a genuine beginning must be made during the lifetime of present Arab generations if the Arab World wants and seeks to share one common destiny and regain its civilisational weight and relevancy in international relations. Whether the Arab states outside the orbit of the Gulf Cooperation Council will be truly forthcoming in their pious advocacy of Arab cooperation and coordination and accept to sacrifice some elements and features of their individualistic and selfish interests for the sake of the greater goal of an Arab common market has yet to be put to the real test. Arab governments in the East and the West must have taken notice by now that their peoples yearn for an overall Arab common market and when given an opportunity will exercise their collective will in favour of such a market without hesitation. Surely the day will come when this Arab will shall be implemented.

Public opinion and the Middle East conflict

By Fouad Moughrabi

TABLE 9
American sympathies in the Middle East*

| | | (per cent) | | | |
|-------------------|----|------------|--------------|---------|------------|
| | | Israel | Arab Nations | Neither | No Opinion |
| 1982: September | 32 | 28 | n/a | n/a | 60 |
| August | 41 | 12 | 31 | 16 | 100 |
| June | 52 | 10 | 29 | 9 | 100 |
| April-May | 51 | 10 | 26 | 11 | 100 |
| January | 49 | 14 | 23 | 14 | 100 |
| 1981: July-August | 44 | 11 | 34 | 11 | 100 |
| 1979: January | 40 | 14 | 31 | 15 | 100 |
| 1978: November | 39 | 13 | 30 | 18 | 100 |
| September (late) | 42 | 12 | 29 | 17 | 100 |
| September (early) | 41 | 12 | 29 | 18 | 100 |
| August | 44 | 10 | 33 | 13 | 100 |
| April-May | 44 | 10 | 33 | 13 | 100 |
| March | 38 | 11 | 33 | 18 | 100 |
| February | 33 | 14 | 28 | 25 | 100 |
| 1977: December | 44 | 10 | 27 | 19 | 100 |
| October | 46 | 11 | 31 | 22 | 100 |
| June | 44 | 8 | 28 | 20 | 100 |
| 1975: January | 44 | 8 | 22 | 26 | 100 |
| 1973: December | 50 | 7 | 25 | 18 | 100 |
| October | 47 | 6 | 22 | 25 | 100 |
| 1970: March | 44 | 3 | 32 | 21 | 100 |
| 1969: January | 50 | 5 | 28 | 17 | 100 |
| 1967: June | 56 | 4 | 25 | 15 | 100 |

Question: "In the Middle East conflict, do you think the U.S. should favor Israel, favor the Arab countries, or should the U.S. not favor one side over the other?"

*Results based on those who have heard or read about events in the Middle East (Aware Group). All of the above are telephone surveys.

U.S. aid to the region

THE U.S., deeply involved in the affairs of the Middle East, emerged in the 1970's and 1980's as the principal global power in the region. Significant levels of U.S. military and economic aid go to the Middle East, principally to Israel and to Egypt. The U.S. has military bases and personnel stationed in the region and has intervened militarily in Lebanon. Public sentiment on military aid and military involvement is considerably more cautious than the attitude of foreign policy leaders, or of the U.S. government. "By large majorities (63 per cent and 65 per cent), the American public opposed giving military aid to other nations and favoured cutting back money spent for that purpose, at a time when the administration was increasing arms aid." Table 12 shows the gap between leaders and the public on issues related to military aid.

On most of the issues, the public do not favour aid; they think it gets the U.S. involved in other people's affairs and do not think it helps prevent the spread of Communism. In the 1982 Gallup survey for the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, "more members of the public (33 per cent) wanted to decrease or stop military aid and arms sales to Israel than wanted to increase them (9 per cent)." Furthermore, most people oppose sending troops in case the Arabs cut off oil to the U.S. or in case the Arabs invade Israel, as Table 13 shows. Most respondents, leaders and public alike, oppose sending troops in both situations. A good percentage of the leaders who objected to sending troops opted in 1978 for sending military sup-

TABLE 12
Military Aid and Arms Sales (1974, 1978, 1982)

| | (percent) | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 1974 Public | 1978 Public | 1978 Leaders | 1982 Public |
| In favor of military aid | 22 | 29 | 60 | 28 |
| In favor of military sales | 35 | — | 67 | 39 |
| Military aid helps security of other nations | 69 | 72 | 87 | 71 |
| Military aid helps economy of other nations | 60 | 59 | 40 | 55 |
| Military aid a good substitute for using U.S. troops | 44 | 49 | 70 | 51 |
| Military aid helps our economy | 31 | 43 | 75 | 39 |
| Military aid helps prevent Communism | 36 | 35 | 66 | 37 |
| Military aid gets us too involved in other countries' affairs | 78 | 79 | 55 | 78 |
| Military aid less dictators use power against their own people | 59 | 61 | 73 | 65 |

Questions: "On the whole, do you favor or oppose our giving military aid to other nations? By 'military aid' I mean arms and equipment, but not troops."

"On the whole, do you favor or oppose our government selling military equipment to other nations?"

Source: Adapted from American Public Opinion and U.S. Foreign Policy (Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, 1983).

Israeli public opinion

In the 1950's and early 1960's, the Palestinians were "invisible." When Golda Meir said in 1970 that "there is no such thing as Palestinians," she was reflecting a national consensus in Israel and in the U.S. The Middle East conflict remained an Arab-Israeli conflict, and not a Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The Palestinians became visible after 1967. During the following decade, the dispute focused on whether or not there were Palestinians, who they are and what they want. Now the debate is over alternative solutions for a settlement. While there is a consensus in Israel on ruling out an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza, the Israeli public is divided on the issue of what should be done with

the occupied territories. Table 15 shows only 5 per cent of the Israeli public favour "an independent Palestinian state, with arrangements for Israel's security." Only 5 per cent favour complete annexation of the territories. However, a total of 49 per cent prefer retaining the territories. A Smith Institute survey in September 1986 asked a nationwide sample: "Should Israel offer the Arabs a territorial compromise in Judea-Samaria-Gaza in return for guarantees, in peace negotiations?" Fifty-four per cent said no; and 37 per cent said yes. The same question, asked in February 1986, elicited a 50 per cent no and a 41 per cent yes.

In July 1978, *New Outlook* commissioned the Public Opinion Research Institute (PORI) to survey public attitudes on the following questions:

1. Under what conditions, if any, would you be ready to return the occupied territories to Arab sovereignty?
2. Do you believe that it is possible to achieve peace without including the Palestinians as partners to the peace agreement?
3. What should the Palestinians do so that Israel will accept them as partners to the peace negotiations?
4. Would you support holding on to most of the territories, even at the risk of a rift with the United States?

Table 16 shows the results for each question: 48.9 per cent indicate willingness to return the occupied territories to Arab sovereignty under certain conditions which include the following:

- a. that there would be arrangements guaranteeing that the territories would not be used as a base against Israel;
- b. that the Arabs would recognise Israel's rights to live in peace and security;
- c. that a free flow of people and goods across the borders be maintained.

In 1978, the number of those ready to return the territories under certain conditions was

(Continued on page 5)

The following article is the third part of a study that appeared in the September issue of the *Link* magazine. The magazine is published in New York by Americans for Middle East Understanding. The writer is professor of political science at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The remaining part of the study will appear in tomorrow's issue of the *Jordan Times*.

Sympathies in the Middle East

THE AMERICAN public has historically sympathised more with Israel than with the Arab countries. Gallup has consistently asked the same sympathy question since June 1967 and obtained the results shown in Table 9. Israel suffered a serious decline in sympathy among the American public following its invasion of Lebanon and the massacres at the Sabra and Shatila camps. Only 32 per cent sympathised more with Israel, as opposed to 28 per cent sympathising with the Arabs. This represents the single most dramatic drop in pro-Israel sympathy, as well as the single most impressive gain of pro-Arab sympathy since 1967.

Table 10 shows the relative decline in the Israeli position as well as the increase in sympathy for the Palestinian position. By November 1982, however, sympathy for Israel was back up to its pre-1982 invasion levels. The Chicago Council on Foreign Relations study concludes that the net result of the Lebanon episode in terms of American public opinion was to generate a modest increase in sympathy for the Palestinian and Arab causes — but without doing any substantial damage to public support for Israel. The same study reveals another interesting finding:

"While the public sympathised with Israel over the Arabs by 45 per cent to 17 per cent, they supported Israel over the Palestinians by a lesser margin, 40 per cent to 17 per cent. Opinion leaders were even more sensitive to the difference in terminology. Their support for Israel over the Arabs (51 per cent-19 per cent) dropped to 42 per cent for Israel over the Palestinians."

The emergence of a sympathy factor for the Palestinians is an important phenomenon. The facts of Palestinian homelessness, the persistence of their struggle and the events in Lebanon may account for the emergence of this factor. Regardless of the reasons for it, the point that the American public is more willing to sympathise with the Palestinians than with the Arabs in the conflict with Israel is certainly worth further examination. Except for hard core of roughly 20-25 per cent of the public, sympathy for Israel is what

Seymour Martin Lipset calls "soft support." Thus, many of the same people who sympathise with Israel oppose arm sales to it, think the present level of U.S. aid is too much and oppose sending U.S. troops even if Israel were invaded by neighbouring Arab countries. Close scrutiny of the figures reveals the hardly unexpected fact that the majority of Americans strongly prefer neutrality in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Indeed, the erosion of support that Israel suffered in the last decade has not resulted in significant, lasting gain for the Arab side. Instead, the neutral category gained substantially. As Table 11 shows, 30 per cent think the U.S. should favour Israel while an impressive 70 per cent think the U.S. should favour neither side in the Arab-Israeli conflict. This finding is further buttressed by the clear public support of the idea that the U.S. government should have friendly relations with Israel (87 per cent) as well as with the Arab governments in conflict with Israel (86 per cent).

Sympathy for Israel seems to be a constant value in American political culture, but it is not unconditional and does not extend to pro-Israeli positions on all issues. A majority of respondents thinks the present levels of aid are excessive; a majority also sees Israel as intransigent (not working hard enough) in the peace process; and a clear majority thinks that the Palestinians have a legitimate grievance, deserve their own state alongside Israel, and want to see the PLO involved in peace negotiations.

TABLE 10
Shift in American Sympathy (1978, 1981, 1982)

| | (percent) | | | | (percent) | | | |
|-------------|------------------|------|------|------|----------------------|------|------|------|
| | Israeli Position | | | | Palestinian Position | | | |
| | More | Less | Same | Know | More | Less | Same | Know |
| Feb. 1978 | 27 | 34 | 19 | 20 | 100 | — | — | — |
| July 1981 | 29 | 37 | 18 | 16 | 100 | 22 | 36 | 21 |
| Aug. 1982* | 32 | 41 | 15 | 12 | 100 | 38 | 40 | 18 |
| Sept. 1982* | 24 | 51 | 10 | 15 | 100 | 39 | 27 | 15 |

Question: "Compared to a year ago, would you say you are more sympathetic or less sympathetic to the Israeli/Palestinian position?"

*August 4-5, 1982; n=752.

September 22-23, 1982; n=605.

Arab film festival in London this month

LONDON — This month the National Film Theatre will host London's first Arab Film Festival. The 55,000 members of the British Film Institute will at last have the chance to see some of the outstanding films made in the Arab World over the past 20 years.

There will be films from Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria and Kuwait. The wide variety of directors and of themes offers a fascinating window on Arab Society — its traditions, aspirations and contradictions.

Ironically, most of these films have not been widely distributed in Arab World itself, partly due to the lack of a proper cinematographic infrastructure, distribution facilities and strategy, but also because of the somewhat sensitive nature of many of the issues with which the films deal.

Represented at the festival will be well-established film directors such as Youssef Chahine (*The Land and The Sparrow*), Mohammed Lakhdar-Hamini (*Years of the Rain*), and Ahmed Rachedi (*Optim and the Road*). There will also be some more recent classics such as Bourhan Ala-

wiyeh's *Kafir Qassem*, Mohammad Malas's *City Dreams* and Khalid Al Sadiq's *The Cruel Sea*.

The new generation of directors is represented by Tunisian Nacer Khemir's *Searchers in the Desert*; Atif Al Tayyeb's *The Bus Driver*; and Samir Zikra's most recent film, *Chronicle of the Year to Come*.

The programme has been compiled by the Committee for the London Arab Film Festival, Rosa Issa, manager of the Kufa Gallery in Westbourne Grove and official consultant to the NFT on Arab cinema and Jana Gough, a freelance editor who specialises in books on the Arab World.

In the upcoming months Channel 4 will be showing a season of Arab films, including an introductory documentary on Arab cinema, followed by a feature film each week for a month.

Timed to coincide with the London Arab Film Festival are two concerts of Arab music at the Purcell Room on the South Bank. The first is by Reinette l'Ornaise, the doyen of classical Arab-Andalusian music, the second is an evening of traditional Arab music given by a group of musicians from Egypt — Arab News.

Sport intensifies brain's blood flow

CEREBRAL blood circulation in humans increases unexpectedly dramatically when the body is subjected to physical strain. These are the surprising findings of experiments conducted by Professor Wolf-Dieter Heib of the Max-Planck-Institut für neurologische Forschung (Max Planck Institute of Neurological Research) in Cologne and Professor Wildor Hollmann, a sports physician from Cologne, involving test persons riding a bicycle with an ergometer. The results do not coincide with those obtained in animal experiments. The extent

of cerebral blood flow was established by a harmless radio-active marker substance injected into the bloodstream prior to the beginning of the test. The full significance of this newly discovered phenomenon is still unclear.

According to the two scientists, it is quite possible, however, that the hormone-like neurotransmitters produced by this surge of blood are "flushed out," as it were, and transported to a person's chest whenever they are required there — The German Research Service.

Food on the hoof breaks into a gallop

Feona McEwan examines the changing eating habits of the three-meals-a-day Briton, who is now likely to nibble in The Yorkshire Pud or square up to a sticky bun in The Old Square.

LONDON — Britain is becoming a nation of nibblers. Those used to three set meals a day are changing to less formal patterns and eating more adventurously.

The Americans call it grazing, eating small amounts and often, and there is a rising trend in Britain towards "picking," choosing food from a variety of ready-made snacks. The fast food explosion and more rapid pace of life have contributed to this.

Nowhere is this preference for "food on the hoof" more evident than in the new phenomenon in the U.K. of "food courts". These days it seems no competitive shopping centre, leisure or sports complex leaves the drawing board without this magic ingredient.

A food court is "a deliberately created refreshment area comprising separate food shops, stalls and kiosks serviced by communal seating," according to Fitch and Co., which designed the UK's first true food court in 1983.

An average court contains from eight to 10 trading kiosks selling varieties of food, has seating for about 350 people and covers about 12,000 sq ft. A typical mix kiosks might include a pizza parlour next to a hamburger or Mexican bar — Mexican is the most rapidly growing type of fast food in the U.K. — close to a sticky bun counter, an ice-cream or coffee bar, a seafood bar and a fruit-juice counter.

Morgan Grenfell Laurie, surveyors and property and financial advisers, has identified about 60 schemes being built, refurbished or planned which will incorporate fast food courts. The Design Solution, a design consultancy, reports that there will be four food courts opening quite soon.

The concept originated in the U.S. where it has been popular for 10 to 15 years. American

courts are predictably larger, seating up to 600 people, and served by up to 20 kiosks. The Union Station scheme in St. Louis, Missouri, contains 40 kiosks. The idea has been adopted also in the Far East, Australia and Canada, although not yet in continental Europe.

Behind the concept of serving shoppers with cheap, quick eating, there is a hard-nosed motive for the growth of food courts with developers and investors: It is not only shoppers that they nourish but sales in the surrounding shops.

By first attracting and then trapping shoppers, as developers have discovered, a successful food court acts as an engine to drive sales throughout the entire shopping centre.

Mr. Anthony Shingler, of Morgan Grenfell Laurie, tells of two similar shopping centres on the east coast of America. One has a food court, the other has not. The one with the court is said to have a sales turnover of between 30 to 50 per cent higher than its rival.

"The idea," says Mr. Shingler, "is that the court acts as a parasite on the pedestrian flow. Having trapped shoppers, it refuels them and extends the 'dwell' time and so they are likely to spend more money."

Faced with the proliferation of shopping centres, developers and investors are looking for the competitive edge. Mr. Kune Gustafson of Fitch explains: "Gone are the days when shopping centres had pre-ordained catchment areas. Now shoppers have a choice of centres within a few miles of their homes. And with many centres containing the same core shops, one point of difference can be the food court."

In inner cities, food courts are becoming the modern-day village green, Mr. Gustafson suggests. They can act as a meeting place,

somewhere to sit and watch the world go by. "It's not the same as sitting in a Woolworths or a British Home Stores having a cuppa..."

Food courts may be the flavour of the moment with developers, but guaranteeing the success of such schemes — which cost at least £1 million (\$1.62 million) each — is another matter. It is a high-risk area and one which specialists predict will claim more casualties. If the location is wrong or the types of food on offer are misjudged, failure is likely.

One example of getting the food wrong happened in The Ridings Scheme in Wakefield, Yorkshire. Of the 10 kiosks in the food court, one sold Indian food. Despite being heavily patronised at lunchtime and serving quality food, it proved to be the least popular in terms of sales. The situation was remedied when the Indian food was replaced by a kiosk called The Yorkshire Pud which is among the court's best sellers.

Mr. Ian Sherman of Beresford Sherman, a leading restaurant design company, stresses the importance of a central location. "Many developers make the mistake of slapping them in anywhere there's a dead space."

"Food courts are not for amateurs. They need a lot of commitment and understanding of the retail trade and food and the preference of shoppers," says Mr. Michael Haskoll, architect of two existing food courts, with seven more on the drawing board.

Among the more successful courts in the U.K. are Waverley Market and Cameron Toll Centre in Edinburgh, The Ridings, the Victoria Centre in Nottingham and Old Square in Walsall, in the West Midlands.

In spite of the risks, the phenomenon looks as though it will be not so much a passing fad than, increasingly, a way of life which will have more and more of us eating a "bun on the run" — Financial Times feature.

Failures lead African governments to privatise state-owned industries

By Larry James
The Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast — From Senegal to Angola, West African nations are selling off state-owned enterprises to private interests.

The goal is to take bloated, inefficient companies off the state payroll and sell them to private investors who might be able to make them work better.

But there are problems: It's tough finding buyers for some state companies, and it may be a long time before the buyers can make a solid return on their investments.

In recent moves toward opening state companies to private ownership:

— Officials of the Ivorian economy and finance ministry are expected to offer for sale equity holdings in 103 state companies involved in shipping, palm oil, rail and transport and textiles. The Ivorian government has already sold holdings in 28 companies involved in agriculture, commerce, tourism and public works.

— Senegal announced plans in July for the privatisation of 26 of 51 companies "the government partly owns or controls. These include a textile manufacturer, hotels, banks and an aluminium foundry."

— Ghana announced this month

it will divest 30 state-owned enterprises.

Zaire has dissolved nine state banking, fisheries, and transportation enterprises.

— Nigeria is looking for buyers for state-owned banks, breweries and insurance companies.

Benin and Congo have expressed a desire to sell semi-government companies that are draining national treasuries.

— Marxist Angola has said it wants to create a private sector, and representatives have met with potential American investors.

In the early 1960s, many newly independent governments were determined to reap the benefits of their countries' resources. They put most companies in public hands, declaring that no longer would private, foreign-owned companies get rich at their expense.

However, government companies often grew into monsters, employing many people but accomplishing little.

Ghana, once the world's largest cocoa producer, established a cocoa marketing board to buy from farmers and sell on international markets. Authorities planned to use earnings from the country's major product to finance development.

But because of low prices offered by the board to farmers, many farmers left the fields for

Randa Habib's Corner

Fillers

A LETTER from a reader attracted my attention to the problem of "fillers" on JTV Channel 2. The fact is that often, between programmes, JTV broadcasts mostly variety videos of pop singers and groups. And even though many viewers enjoy pop music, others have the right to watch something else. Why not include travel news, even a funny cartoon film would provide a nice break between programmes. The old film shorts of Laurel and Hardy, and the unforgettable Charlie Chaplin would also fit perfectly.

Varieties must be a full programme on their own, and not only fillers. Music Box had fans of all age groups, and that programme should remain fixed on a specific day, as a full programme. As for the "in between" programmes, JTV should either organise its scheduling in such a way that "fillers" are not required, or else find funny, educational short films to show. Locally-produced national films would also do the job. Short touristic films about Jordan's new archaeological and touristic sites, still unknown to the public would be welcome. The Zaqra Mai'n spa is a good example. The Dibbine Park, known by few people, is also a suitable topic. Sports activities in Jordan, from rallies to soccer games, can also form short programmes independent from the news. There are hundreds of examples of local or foreign items that could fit perfectly in the ever so numerous "fill-in" times on JTV.

Public opinion and the Middle East conflict

(Continued from page 4)

slightly higher than the number of those who refuse to do so under any conditions. By 1984, the numbers were reversed as is shown in Table 15, and by 1986, nearly 54 per cent said they object to returning the territories in return for guarantees.

A hardening of the positions occurred in correlation with the increasing polarisation of Israeli society. As Table 17 indicates, the majority of Israelis do not think Israel should negotiate with the PLO even if it officially recognises Israel and refrains from "terrorist" acts.

In addition to splits along ethnic lines, the most important division within Israeli thinking falls along the lines of modernisation versus underdevelopment. Roughly 40 per cent of the society is modernised along Western European lines; the remaining 60 per cent are much less developed in terms of education, secularism and levels of income. The question here is, whether this split reflects a similar division among the public on issues of peace and settlement.

Gloria Falk argues that there is "little, if any polarisation, as to the complexity of peace issues... a majority (57 per cent) of Israelis hold mixed and sometimes incompatible views on the peace issues, suggesting that positions are not firmly held." The large centre according to Falk is "soft" and could be "malleable" if a real settlement presents itself.

Figures fluctuate according to events. However, this does not explain the rather serious differences in interpretation that characterise various narratives. The New Outlook poll of July 1978 was conducted in order to strengthen the argument that there is in the Israeli public a readiness for peace and settlement. Akiva Orr's interpretation in *Middle East International* defines a solution as one involving the return of the occupied territories to Palestinian sovereignty. Gloria Falk's underlying assumption is that a settlement means a trade of territory for peace with Jordan, not the Palestinians. She suggests that an independent Palestine state on the West Bank and Gaza would be an extreme option.

Once these underlying assumptions are spelled out, the figures and the narrative interpretations begin to make sense. Let us, however, look at the data without any preconceptions.

Table 18 shows results of a nationwide survey which asked the public the following question: "Do you support those who act to make the Arabs leave Judea and Samaria?" Sympathy for Rabbi Meir Kahane's suggestion that the Palestinians should be expelled from their homes on the West Bank and Gaza has increased by 10 per cent from February 1985 to September 1986. In other words, roughly 40 per cent of the Israeli public now approves the extremist positions advocated by Kahane and others.

The increase in public support

for right-wing extremist positions is confirmed in other surveys. The Van Leer Institute commissioned a series of polls in 1985 which revealed that 59.3 per cent of religious youth and about 50 per cent of Oriental Jewish youth expressed agreement with the opinions of Meir Kahane. The September 1985 Van Leer poll discovered that 57 per cent of the youth said that every Arab in the occupied territories who refuses Israeli citizenship should be expelled; 38 per cent favoured private Jewish revenge associations; 42 per cent favoured a reduction of rights of all non-Jewish citizens; and 47 per cent said Christians and Muslims should be prohibited from reaching senior positions in the civil service.

A PORI survey in October 1985 asked a nationwide sample whether they are "for or against establishing an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip if they recognise Israel and stop all hostile acts." Thirty per cent opted for, 4 per cent said it depends, 61 per cent were against, and 5 per cent had no answer. However, when respondents were asked "in principle, are the Palestinians entitled or not entitled to a state of their own?" 41 per cent said yes, 10 per cent said it depends, 43 per cent said no, and 6 per cent did not know. The first question is specific and deals with the issue of a separate, independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza. The second question is less specific, leaving margin of interpretation to the respondents, some of whom no doubt subscribe to the thesis, often put forth in Israel, that the Palestinians are entitled to a state of their own "in Jordan."

Nonetheless, one may conclude that on the highly specific issue of self-determination and statehood in the West Bank there is a body of support in Israel that hovers around 30 per cent of the public. Opposition to this option appears firm; however, when other scenarios are presented, such as some form of arrangement with Jordan, the opposition is reduced. Here again there is a bottom line of approximately 40 per cent who would frown on arrangements with Jordan that might lead to total Israeli abandonment of the occupied territories.

A core of some 30 per cent is willing to accept an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza under certain conditions. Another core of 40 per cent are opposed to this as well as other scenarios (e.g. Jordan) that might lead to Israeli withdrawal from the territories. The remaining 30 per cent are distributed in the following way: some are undecided, some may support a settlement if it receives a government consensus, but most are likely to support a hawkish position.

The government in Israel enjoys widespread support in its aggressive policy toward the Palestinians: 67 per cent favour the "demolition of terrorists' families' houses"; 87 per cent

TABLE 15
Israeli Preferences for Final Status of West Bank and Gaza (1984)

| HOLD ON | (percent) |
|---|-----------|
| A. Annexation of the West Bank and Gaza, giving Palestinians the same rights as Arabs in Israel | 5 |
| B. Keep things as they are now | 21 |
| C. Limited Palestinian Autonomy with Israel retaining full control over security | 23 |
| LET GO | |
| D. Partition of West Bank between Israel and Jordan | 23 |
| E. Palestinian Autonomy in close association with Jordan, with arrangements for Israel's security | 11 |
| F. An independent Palestinian state, with arrangements for Israel's security | 5 |
| NO OPINION | 12 |

"Here is a list of proposals for the final status of West Bank and Gaza. Palestinians. Of these, which one in your opinion would be the best for Israel?"

Public Opinion Research of Israel (PORI), September 1984.

Gloria Falk, "Israeli Public Opinion: Looking Toward a Palestinian Solution," *Middle East Journal* 39 (3), Summer 1985.

TABLE 17
Israel to negotiate with PLO if it recognizes Israel and refrains from terrorism

| | Yes | No | Don't know |
|----------------|-----|----|------------|
| February 1986 | 44 | 51 | 5 |
| May 1986 | 42 | 53 | 5 |
| August 1986 | 45 | 52 | 3 |
| September 1986 | 43 | 52 | 5 |

"If the PLO will officially recognize Israel and refrain from terrorist acts, should we negotiate with it?"

Source: *Demar*, October 2, 1986.

favour the "expulsion of terrorists" who committed "terrorist acts"; and 47 per cent favour the expulsion of their families. Eighty-four per cent of respondents approved the air attack on the PLO headquarters in Tunis and 64 per cent did not think the attack would have any effect on the chances for peace with the Arab states.

What can one conclude from all of these figures? In Israel, the public seems to reflect the position of its government on the issue of the Palestinians. It is willing to accept a fairly aggressive policy toward the Palestinians — the demolition of houses, deportation of activists and long prison terms. What also emerges, however, is the image of a divided society. Over time, the Palestinians have become an internal Israeli problem and the issue will increasingly impinge on the political discourse.

At the centre of the debate are questions of democracy, Jewishness and the nature of the state of Israel. How can the state remain democratic if it rules over two million Palestinians? To keep Israel Jewish, should one expel all the Arabs from the country? Ze'ev Schiff, a respected defence correspondent for *Ha'aretz*, envisions the possibility of civil war between Jews and Arabs. Other commentators talk openly about the rise of "fascism" in Israel.

It is unlikely that the issue of a peace settlement will be framed in Israel in a manner that deals specifically with the Palestinians, the PLO or the question of self-determination and Palestinian statehood. What is more likely to

TABLE 16
New Outlook Poll (1978)

| Question 1: | (percent) |
|---|-----------|
| Under no conditions at all | 46.8 |
| Under certain conditions | 48.9 |
| No answer | 4.3 |
| Question 2: | |
| Impossible without the Palestinians | 43.7 |
| Possible | 35.2 |
| Maybe, depends | 7.2 |
| Don't know | 13.9 |
| Question 3: | |
| Nothing, under no conditions | 39.5 |
| Recognize Israel, and/or abolish Covenant, and/or stop the terror | 56.4 |
| Other conditions | 3.4 |
| Question 4: | |
| For holding on | 39.0 |
| Depends, maybe | 11.0 |
| Against | 32.8 |
| No opinion | 17.2 |

Source: *New Outlook*, September 1978.

TABLE 18
Expulsion of Arabs

| | Yes | No | Don't know |
|----------------|-----|----|------------|
| February 1985 | 29 | 68 | 3 |
| May 1986 | 34 | 59 | 6 |
| September 1986 | 38 | 58 | 4 |

Source: *Demar*, October 2, 1986.

emerge is a frame that is sellable to the public, namely, some form of negotiation and accommodation with Jordan. Such a frame is also consistent with Israel's long-standing definition of its strategic approach to a resolution of the conflict — an approach that emerged in 1949, and remained practically unchanged since then. This position will find a responsive partner in the United States and Egypt and will probably gain a majority of the Israeli public.

At the moment, the majority of the Israeli public as well as the majority of its establishment politicians think that they can find a solution (preferably with Jordan) which will circumvent the PLO and the uncomfortable issue of Palestinian nationalism. A minority of well-informed intellectuals such as Yehoshafat Harkabi, Meir Merhav and others do not think so.

Doctors can usually do little for backache, says specialist

BACKACHE is seldom helped by doctors; 95 per cent of cases recover spontaneously within two or three weeks. Swedish orthopaedic surgeon Erik Spangfort says.

Professor Spangfort, of Huddinge University Hospital, was in Hamburg for the Fifth International Congress on pain.

He told the German news agency, dpa, in answer to a question, that acupuncture could ease back pain but not cure it.

Kay Brune of Erlangen University said there was no such thing as the "best drug" for treating arthritis. It was up to the medical profession to prove its skill in using tried and trusted methods.

Professor Spangfort admitted that doctors were in a difficult position. One reason was that patients were not, as he saw it,

examined carefully enough. He complained that orthopaedic surgeons did not, as a rule, consult other specialists in connection with diagnosis and treatment.

It was extremely difficult to pinpoint the cause of backache. In many cases there were organic causes.

Doctors must, he felt, learn to make sure that a patient's backache did not assume chronic proportions. Only about five per cent of patients suffered from chronic backache of this kind.

They spared neither effort nor expense in their bids to get rid of the pain. They accounted for 80 per cent of expenditure in the orthopaedic sector.

Asked how he felt about acupuncture, he said it could ease the pain but not cure the backache. Professor Brune said tried and

trusted non-steroid drugs were still the best way of treating arthritic pain and inflammation. The latest experiments with drugs such as Interferon and Cyclosporin that affect the body's immune system had not proved very promising on closer scrutiny.

Gisele Guilbaud of Paris and Robert Schmidt of Wurzburg presented research findings indicating that simple rheumatism drugs blocked sensitivity to pain right in the joint rather than via the nervous system.

There are about 2,000 nerve ends in a joint. They are normally insensitive but can, in the sick, respond to and register pain.

They were activated by biochemical changes resulting from inflammation, Professor Schmidt said. Other agents inhibited activation. Painkillers based on morphium, which have so far

been felt to work solely via the brain, can also block nerve ends in a joint and bring rheumatic pain to a halt.

In very serious cases morphium-based drugs could, he felt, be used.

A Frankfurt study group said about 1,400 medical practices needed to be set up in the Federal Republic to treat patients suffering from chronic pain.

Including special clinics there were at present only 95 to treat 450,000 patients suffering from pain caused by one complaint or another that failed to respond to conventional treatment.

The Frankfurt group, which concentrates mainly on pain research and continuing training for doctors, has branches in eight German cities — Allgemeine Zeitung, Mainz.

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Lewis retains 400-metre relay title in final day of world track tourney

ROME (Agencies) — Carl Lewis overcame a two-metre deficit in the final 100 metres to give the United States the men's 400-metre relay title at the World Track and Field Championships on Sunday.

In winning his second gold medal of the meet, Lewis charged past Soviet Union Anchorman Vladimir Krylov to win by more than one metre, waving the baton in victory as he crossed the finish line. The time was an unofficial 37.9.

The Soviets finished second with Jamaica third.

The U.S. also claimed the first gold medal of the final day of the games when they dethroned East Germany in the women's 4x100 metres relay final.

East German Silke Gladisch, winner of the individual 100 and 200 metres titles, took out a powerful option on a third gold

medal when she made up the stagger on the two runners outside her and handed over a healthy lead to Cornelia Oschkenat.

But the Americans, Olympic champions in the absence of the boycotting East Germans at the 1984 Los Angeles Games, fought their way back.

Florence Griffith, silver medalist behind Gladisch in the 200 metres final, ran a barnstorming third leg and handed over a tremendous lead to Pam Marshall, who completed a rousing victory and gave the United States their seventh Rome title.

Marlies Goehr, 100 metres gold medalist in the inaugural

1983 world championships in Helsinki, fought to cut back the deficit on the anchor leg, but East Germany's Helsinki title had

Aouita wins 5,000 m

ROME (AP) — Said Aouita of Morocco took the lead at the start of the final lap and raced to a 10-metre victory in the men's 5,000 metres at the games on Sunday.

Aouita's unofficial time of 13 minutes, 26.46 seconds was almost a half-minute slower than the world-record 12:58.39 he set on the same Olympic stadium track earlier this summer.

Second was Domingos Castro of Portugal with Jack Buckner of Britain third.

already changed hands.

The United States won in 41.58 seconds, ahead of East Germany (41.95) and the Soviet Union (42.33).

Rain fell early in the afternoon, as has become a habit during the last four days, but had stopped when the final day's competition of the nine-day championships began.

Peter Maher of Canada was the early leader in the marathon, which started out from the Olympic Stadium on its 42.195-km course.

Two youngsters trespassed into the race for a brief while, joining the leader outside the stadium, but quickly dropped out after grabbing a share of the camera spotlight.

Maher led by some 50 metres when he passed the five-km mark in 15 minutes 16 seconds.

Polish Navy captures Woodward Stakes

NEW YORK (AP) — Polish Navy, who missed the triple crown series because he was the third to miss the triple crown, sailed into the three-year-old championship picture Saturday with a victory in the \$595,000 Woodward Stakes at Belmont Park.

"I think the three-year-old championship may be within reach," said trainer Shug

McGaughey after his colt scored a three-quarter-length victory over fast-closing Gulch. "If any one stubs their toe, we have a chance."

"Some of the Triple Crown horses may be tiring off and if we were to win the Marlboro and fare well in the Jockey Club, that would put us right up there."

The one and one-eighth mile (1.8-kilometre) run attracted all the leading three-year-olds with the exception of Aly Sheba, the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner. Travers winner Java Gold and Lost Code, a multiple-stakes winner.

Both Aly Sheba and Java Gold are expected to run in the one and one-quarter mile (2-km) Marlboro Cup and McGaughey said, "We'll have to take a look, won't we? We have our minds on it, sure."

Gone West held the lead until the top of the stretch when jockey Randy Romero put the son of Danzing-Navsup into the lead for good after holding second all the way.

"Shug did a great job with him and right now I think he's as good as any three-year-old around," Romero said.

Creme Fraiche, a 5-year-old who won the 1985 Belmont Stakes, rallied to finish third, a neck behind the runner-up and 2 lengths in front of Crypto Clearance.

Polish Navy carried 116 pounds (52.5 kilograms) over the distance in 1:47 and paid \$12.80, \$6.80 and \$4.20. Gulch, who carried 118 pounds (53 kg), including Jose Santos, returned \$7.60 and \$4. Creme Fraiche, 119 pounds (54 kg) with Robby Davis aboard, was coupled in the betting with Gone West as the Woody Stephens-trained entry, and paid \$3.60 to show.

Bordeaux Bob finished fifth, while Bet Twice, the Belmont Stakes and Haskell Handicap winner, was sixth in the field of nine.

Craig Perrett, Bet Twice's jockey, said, "I spent the whole race trying to get into a striking position and when I got him in that zone, he just didn't fire. I guess the triple crown kind of got to him."

Bet Twice finished second in

both the Kentucky Derby and Preakness before romping to a 14-length win in the Belmont Stakes.

Completing the order of finish were Gone West, Proud Debonair and Wind Chill.

Moment of hope was scratched.

Gone West, ridden by Eddie Maple, set most of the pace with Polish Navy holding second all the way until he overtook Gulch. In mid-stretch, Polish Navy led runner-up Gone West by 2 lengths, then was hard-pressed to hold on.

The victory was the third in six starts this year for Polish Navy and was worth \$357,000 and boosted his career earnings to \$1,028,076.

After undergoing arthroscopic surgery last December, Polish Navy didn't return to the track until June 6. He posted two wins since then, including the Jim Dandy Stakes at Saratoga.

In his previous start, the colt finished third on a sloppy track in the Travers at Saratoga.

Polish Navy had been highly regarded as a 2-year-old, winning four straight before finishing seventh in the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Nov. 1 at Santa Anita.

The Woodward is the first leg of New York's fall championship series that also includes the \$750,000 Marlboro Cup Sept. 20 and the \$1 million Jockey Club Gold Cup Oct. 10.

Slew O'Gold is the only horse to sweep the series, accomplishing the feat in 1984.

Sun Master, ridden by Laffit Pincay, Jr., scored a nose victory over Banker's Jet in the \$85,350 Boojum Handicap. Play the King finished third, a neck behind Banker's Jet as Pine Tree Lane finished sixth in the field of seven.

The entry paid \$3.20 to win and Sun Master was timed in 1:09.1-5 for the six furlongs.

Crypto Clearance's fourth-place finish, worth \$35,700, boosted him over \$1-million mark in career earnings.



Piquet... a slice of luck

Piquet outmanoeuvres Senna to win Italian Grand Prix

MONZA, Italy (R) — Nelson Piquet extended his lead in the world drivers' championship to a commanding 14 points over fellow-Brazilian Ayrton Senna when he won the Italian Grand Prix on Sunday.

But Piquet, driving a Williams fitted with the new active ride suspension, again owed his victory to a slice of good fortune after trailing Senna in a Lotus for much of a closely-contested race.

Senna, who led from the 24th lap, swerved off the circuit on the 43rd of 50 laps when overtaking a back marker. There was a cloud of dust as he drove into a sand trap and Piquet took his chance to race into the lead. He went on to win by just 1.8 seconds.

Briton Nigel Mansell was third in another Williams but never challenged the leading pair after the early laps. Austrian Gerhard Berger in a Ferrari came in fourth ahead of Belgian Thierry Boutsen in a Benetton and Stefan Johansson of Sweden in a McLaren.



TRIO IN ACTION: Yarmouk University goalkeeper Khalidoun Irshaidat (left) moves to fend off a kick by Nari Yadraj, the University of Jordan forward, during a match played Sunday in the first Arab Collegiate Sports Festival. Yarmouk University team topped the soccer qualifying heats table after beating the University of Jordan 1-0. The University of Jordan secured the second position and the third place was won by Bahrain University.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

100 injured in Bangladesh soccer violence

DHAKA (R) — About 100 fans were injured, 10 seriously, after clashes broke out during a match between Bangladesh's two top football teams on Sunday, police said. They said riot police fired tear gas and used stones and batons to disperse the fans after the Dhaka Mohammedan sporting club defeated Abahani Krira Chakra 3-2 in an exciting league match. The police gave no reasons for the clash, saying such incidents had been a commonplace in big matches. "Some fans just go berserk when their teams face defeat," one police official told reporters.

Soviet runners win Hokkaido Marathon

SAPPORO, Japan (AP) — Fedor V. Ryzhov ran away with the men's race while compatriot Lutsia A. Beliaev took the women's race Sunday in the 1987 Hokkaido Marathon. Ryzhov, who led from the 15-kilometre point, covered the 42.195 metres in the rain in 2 hours, 24 minutes, 28 seconds, far ahead of Japan's Tatsuyuki Tajiri, who finished in 2:33:13.

Britons win individual yachting title

TOKYO (AP) — A British yacht sailed by 1987 British champions James Hartly and Ian Tiltett won Sunday's final race and captured the individual title in the international 14-foot dinghy world championships. The Hartly-Tiltett team collected a total of three points in winning five of the seven races on Lake Inawashiro, 200 kilometres northeast of Tokyo. They finished second in the fourth race and came in fourth in the sixth race. The winner of each race received zero points, the second placer three points, the third placers 5.7 points and so on. The lowest total won.

Nottingham sinks from top spot in English League table

LONDON (R) — Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough, never a man lost for words, will find plenty to say to his team after they squandered a clear lead for the second time in two matches to slip from a strong position in the English League table.

The players' ears rang with the plain-talking Clough's roars from the bench as they allowed Chelsea to come back from 3-1 down to win 4-3 on Saturday.

An angry Clough, who saw his son Nigel contribute to the first-half lead with his fourth goal of the season, was in no mood to comment on the match as he hurried the players away afterwards.

He had already berated them last week for the same sin of slackening off against Southampton when a 2-1 Forest lead at the interval turned into a 3-3 full-time score.

Forest were lying third before

Sunday, two points behind leaders Queen's Park Rangers. Their mistakes at Chelsea pushed them down to sixth.

Coventry versus Manchester

Another manager making himself heard on a day of high injury tolls and frequent bookings was Manchester United's Alex Ferguson. His protests about the referee's handling of the goalless draw against Coventry led to his own name joining a list of five players booked and one sent off.

"The referee is reporting me," said Ferguson, who was fined £500 (\$800) last season by the Football Association (F.A.) in similar circumstances. "I'll certainly be making my own protest. I couldn't believe his attitude."

Dane Jesper Olsen, with an injured ankle, and Mike Duxbury, who broke his hand and received a black eye, were among

Filipino, Japanese woman win Malaysian marathon

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Jimmy Dela Torre of the Philippines won the 6th annual International Penang Marathon by 6½ minutes Sunday and said he would use his 15,000-ringggit (\$5,970) first prize to buy a house.

Dela Torre, 24, who holds the Southeast Asian Games Marathon record of 2 hours, 25 minutes, in Sunday's finished in 2:29:52 in Sunday's marathon through the streets of Penang, 300 kilometres northwest of Kuala Lumpur.

Australian John Duck, 35, was second in 2:31:43 and collected 3,000 ringgits (\$1,190). Japan's Tetsuji Iwase finished third in 2:33:15 and won 1,000 ringgits (\$400).

"I never expected to win. I

thought the Japanese and the defending champion Taiwanese Ho Shin-Yen and a few others were better than me," said Dela Torre, a shop assistant from Pavia in Iloilo City near Manila.

He said the prize money "works out to around 150,000 pesos and with such an amount, I can purchase a big house back home."

In the women's section, defending champion Setsuko Hanafusa of Japan retained her title in 2:54:58 over the same 42.195-kilometre distance. She won 5,000 ringgits (\$1,990).

Briton Leslie Watson was second in 3:02:51, winning 2,000 ringgits (\$796), while Malaysia's Connie Ng Kim Liang came third in 3:17:13 and collected 1,000 ringgits (\$400).

Becker, McEnroe stumble into fourth round of U.S. Open

NEW YORK (R) — Defending champion Ivan Lendl breezed through another easy match, but Boris Becker and John McEnroe had to work long and hard for their third round U.S. Open victories on Saturday.

Becker, the fourth-seeded West German, dropped the second set to a surprisingly powerful Andrew Castle of Britain while playing on an injured ankle but rebounded to win 6-4, 5-7, 6-2, 7-5 in three and a half hours.

Castle, a qualifier, was the first British player ever to take a set from Becker, who was still struggling a little with his serve.

Becker twisted his right ankle when playing a lob in the second set, but after the ankle was taped up at 1-0 in the third he raced through to take a two sets to one lead.

After breaking Castle with a deep backhand volley to lead 6-5 the West German finished the match looking like the Becker who won two Wimbledon titles as

he held serve at love by blasting two aces and two service winners.

"I am especially pleased with the way I finished. I am pumped up to meet Brad," Becker said referring to Brad Gilbert, the 13th-seeded American.

Saturday was a typical day at the office for the eighth-seeded McEnroe.

McEnroe took a thrilling four-hour match from hard serving Slobodan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia 6-4, 5-7, 6-7, 6-4, 6-3 but not before squandering two set points and receiving a point and then a game penalty for verbally abusing the umpire and a television soundman.

The game penalty came with McEnroe down 6-5, giving Zivojinovic the second set without having to play a point in the deciding game.

It took McEnroe a set and a half to regain his composure, but pumped up by the controversy and the crowd the "bad boy" of tennis recovered to win the last two sets and advance.

AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY VACANCY

The Australian Embassy wishes to thank all individuals who applied for the vacancy of Clerk/Typist and advises that the vacancy has now been filled.

FILIPINO WORKERS IN JORDAN

You are required to register now at the Philippine Embassy as the embassy can better assist you in case you need help.

The embassy's address is: Abbas Aqad St., near the 2nd Circle, P.O. Box 925207. Tel. nos.: 645161 and 643421.

Remember this is for your own good.

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Location: Jabal Amman, 5th Circle. Consists of 2 bedrooms, living room, dining room, salon (L-shaped), 2 bathrooms, kitchen with breakfast area, telephone, separate central heating, lift, and covered garage.

For more information, please call tel.: 810297

SPANISH TEACHING COURSES

The Spanish Cultural Centre in Amman announces a course for teaching Spanish. Registration starts as of Monday, 7/9/1987. The three-month course starts on Saturday, 12/9/1987. Lessons for all levels under the supervision of Spanish teachers.

For further information please call tel.: 624049, Jabal Amman - 1st Circle, next to the Spanish embassy.

REQUIRED SECRETARY/TYPIST STENOGRAPHER

Experience: 2 - 4 years with contracting and or consulting engineering offices.

Qualified candidate requested to call on tel.: 630827, Amman, for interview appointment.

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Luxury 2nd floor flat for rent in best location in Shmeisani; 340 sq.m., separate entrance, 2 car garage, 3-4 very large bedrooms, 2½ bathrooms, very spacious living area opportunity for roof garden, can be furnished if desired.

Please call tel.: 660504, between 8-1.30

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Ground floor, with garden and garage, consists of 2 bedrooms, salon, dining room, modern utilities, fully equipped with electrical appliances, telephone, and central heating.

Call at site in Shmeisani, opposite the European Common Market, tel.: 679521.

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Consists of 3 bedrooms, salon, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, veranda, central heating, telephone, central television aerial.

Location: Near Pizza Hut restaurant / Mecca Street.

Call tel.: 813694

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Consists of 3 bedrooms, salon, glassed-in veranda, kitchen with all electric appliances, central heating, and telephone.

Call tel.: 810401, 626984

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Company requires local purchase/public relations man. Candidates should have:

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2. Read/write and speak English/Arabic.
3. Hold valid Jordanian light driving licence.

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The first consists of one bedroom. The other consists of two bedrooms, salon, dining room, kitchen. With central heating. Telephone and garage.

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- b- Two bedrooms, living-dining room, kitchen and bath. Central heating and telephones.

Location: Jabal Amman, bet. 3rd & 4th Circles.

Tel: 641443 - 642351

CONCORD

DOWN AND OUT IN BEVERLY HILL

Performances 3.30, 6.10, 8.30, 10.10

OPERA

SAVAGE STREETS

Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.10

PLAZA

ZAPPED

Performances 3.30, 6.10, 8.30, 10.30

Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batsbon

AMMAN — Last week, the U.S. dollar fell sharply against the Japanese yen. The main reason for the drop was the bad economic figures released in New York during the week and the lesser tension in the Gulf area.

The trading range was however wide because of the huge selling volume of the dollar by major banks and brokers. Speculators sold the dollar in fear of central banks' intervention in support of the U.S. unit.

For the second time within the past two weeks, the Bundesbank, the Bank of Japan, the Swiss National Bank and the Bank of France intervened on Friday to halt the dollar from falling further but to no avail.

The dollar traded between 0.338 - 0.349 fils on the Jordanian dinar. Local banks and financial companies were selling their dollar positions because they feared another huge drop on the dollar.

Charts indicate that the dollar is now resuming its downward trend and dealers may be willing to sell the dollar on every rally. The expected range for this week could be 0.334 - 0.344 fils.

The pound sterling traded much higher because of the weaker dollar. The pound

traded between 0.560 - 0.5650 fils. The D.M. and S.F. also traded higher because of the lower dollar. The S.F. traded between 0.221 - 0.228 fils. The D.M. traded higher between 0.1875 - 0.1950 fils, and the Austrian shilling traded between 0.212 - 0.215 fils.

The Lebanese lira traded lower between (820 - 730) L.L./JD. The Syrian lira traded between (100 - 92) S.L./JD, the Kuwaiti dinar traded between 1.200 - 1.210 on the JD, the Egyptian pound between 0.140 - 0.150 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 0.240 - 0.260 fils.

Metals traded higher for the first time since the dollar started to fall in the last three weeks. Bullion houses and banks started buying heavily what they missed two weeks earlier.

Gold jumped from a low of \$452 an ounce to \$466 an ounce. Silver from \$7.22 to \$7.82 an ounce.

Charts indicate that metals are still in a bull trend and dealers may be willing to stay long on both metals and to scale down more any setbacks.

Gold prices in Amman based on the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan Jewellery Store are as follows:
Gold 21 carats per gramme JD 4.500 - JD 4.250
Gold 18 carats per gramme JD 5.000 - JD 4.500

Burma invalidates banknotes

RANGOON (R) — Burma invalidated its top value banknotes on Saturday in a surprise move which officials said was aimed at black-market dealers and counterfeit notes being used by anti-government rebels to buy supplies.

A snap government announcement said the 75-kyat note would no longer be legal tender. The government said it was also demonetising the 35- and 25-kyat notes, which have already been withdrawn from circulation.

Wage freeze in Greece will end in December

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu on Saturday announced an end to a two-year wage freeze from January next year, saying his government's austerity programme had been successful.

"We can now say with firmness that the economy is in recovery. We are ready for the big leap of reform," he said in a speech opening an annual trade fair in Salonika, northern Greece.

The austerity programme, introduced in October 1985, was highly unpopular with workers and trade unions who staged a series of general strikes and work stoppages over the past two years.

But the government stuck to its policy on grounds that wage restraint was necessary to help stabilise the economy.

"The moment has come to abolish the legislative restraints on wage increases and return to free negotiations between employers and employees," Mr. Papandreu said.

He added that the government's incomes policy in 1988 would provide for a reduction in taxation to help pay for the increased incomes.

Mr. Papandreu said the state would also subsidise the rents of low income groups and employers would be allowed to give productivity bonuses in negotiation with employees.

He said the government's stabilisation programme had succeeded in bringing down inflation and the deficit in the balance of

payments and the improvement continued this year.

The government has set a target of 10 per cent inflation by the end of this year compared to 16.9 per cent at the end of 1986 and 25 per cent in 1985.

But he admitted that the 10 per cent goal will not be reached and inflation would run three to four per cent above that figure at the end of this year, about three times the level of most European Community member states.

Mr. Papandreu said the elimination of net foreign borrowing planned for the next two years would be "a milestone in the course of the Greek economy."

But officials said the country's foreign debts will rise to about \$17.2 billion by the end of this year from \$16.8 billion at the end of 1986.

Mr. Papandreu said Greece's trade record had improved, noting that the balance of current accounts closed with a surplus of \$361 million in July this year, four and a half times greater than that in July 1986.

He said farmers and workers had borne the main burden of the austerity programme and called on businessmen to step up investment.

"I address all businessmen — invest in the Greek economy," Mr. Papandreu said.

He said the government had decided to move ahead with a number of development projects including a river diversion scheme and new national highways.

De Beers will raise uncut diamond prices by 10%

LONDON (R) — De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd, which has a virtual monopoly over the world's rough diamond sales, said its Central Selling Organisation (CSO) would raise its gemstone prices by an overall 10 per cent next month.

The South African mining group said the varying increases, which would be weighted towards the larger uncut gem diamond sizes, would be introduced at its next sale, known as a "sight," scheduled for Oct. 5.

Momentum for a price rise came mainly from demand in Japan and South East Asia and underlined the healthy state of the diamond market, a De Beers spokesman said.

The price rise will not apply to the cheaper end of the industrial diamond market, De Beers said.

Japanese diamond imports in the first seven months of the year were up 60 per cent in dollar terms and 34.2 per cent in terms of the stronger yen, the spokesman said.

"There's certainly evidence that the Japanese are buying a wider range of large goods," he added.

Last year, De Beers raised prices twice, by 7.5 per cent in April and seven per cent in November. Before that, there was a 3.5 per cent increase in early 1983 when the diamond industry was in the worst recession since the 1930s.

The De Beers spokesman said pricing details on the various categories of stones were not available, but he noted that a one carat polished investment diamond, known as "D Flawless," could be bought for around \$13,500 to \$15,000.

Industry sources added that demand for so-called "investment diamonds," which reached a peak in the inflationary period in the late 1970s, is now dormant. The one carat D Flawless price peaked at around \$60,000 in 1980.

In July, the CSO reported first-half 1987 sales of \$1.56 billion compared with \$1.21 billion a year earlier and \$1.34 billion in the second half of 1986.

Privatisation of JAL advances

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government last week cleared another hurdle in its efforts to sell its shares in Japan Airlines (JAL), one of several major state firms due to be privatised.

A government plan to sell its 34.5 per cent JAL stake, valued at more than \$5 billion, was approved by the upper house of parliament.

Egypt estimates oil reserves at 4.7b barrels

CAIRO (R) — Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel said the discovery of new fields in the past five years had pushed Egypt's oil reserves up to 4.685 billion barrels while gas reserves reached nine trillion cubic feet.

In a statement carried by the semi official Al Ahran newspaper, Mr. Kandeel said the new discoveries did not mean that Egypt would raise its self-imposed production ceiling of 870,000 barrels per day.

Egypt, which is not a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), produced slightly above its declared ceiling in the first half of 1987, averaging about 900,000 barrels per day. It exports one third of its total production.

Mr. Kandeel, reviewing achievements of the five-year development plan which ended in June 1987, said 87 new oil and gas fields were discovered, of which 41 were productive.

The new fields were producing an average 305,000 barrels per day and had added 1.285 billion barrels to the reserves, he said.

Reagan urges workers to shun protectionism

SANTA BARBARA, California (AP) — President Ronald Reagan urged American workers in a Labour Day message to shun protectionist legislation and "meet the competition head-on."

"And don't let anyone tell you we can't do it," President Reagan said in his weekly radio address on Saturday.

"American industry is stepping out in the world again, and this time it's leaner, meaner and ready for action," the president said as he renewed his attack on legislation in Congress that would require presidential action against countries found to be engaged in unfair trade.

"Our working people are still the most productive on the planet," President Reagan said. "I have always believed that, given the tools and equipment they need, and on a level playing field, American workers can out-compete and beat the pants off anybody, anywhere."

But he added there are some people who don't share that confidence.

"They fear foreign competition, as is reflected in protectionist trade proposals that float around Washington these days," President Reagan said.

"Restricting trade in the long run is bad for everybody, especially for the working people of America," President Reagan said. "Protecting one domestic industry risks retaliation against another. For example, American agriculture would be dealt a devastating blow if our trading partners shut their markets to our farm products in retaliation to American protectionism."

The president said the country is in its 58th month of economic growth and more than 13.5 million jobs have been created since the expansion began.

Omani oil revenues rise

MUSCAT (AP) — Omani government revenues rose to 335.6 million riyals (\$865.8 million) during the second quarter of this year, an increase of nine million riyals (\$23.2 million) compared to the previous quarter, a report said Saturday.

Oil revenues during the period totalled 281 million riyals (\$725 million), an increase of 14 million riyals (\$36 million) over the first quarter, according to the figures released by the State Development Council and published in the English-language newspaper Oman Daily Observer.

Oil exports are the backbone of Oman's economy. The sultanate is not a member of the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), but it prices its oil in line with OPEC's system. The improvement in its revenues reflected the improvement on the oil market where prices which had plummeted early 1986 began improving after group moved in the latter part of the year to curtail an oil glut on the market.

Oman was one of the first countries to comply with OPEC's call on oil producers outside the world group to help in this respect.

The published figures also showed that income tax on companies decreased from 13.9 million riyals (\$35.8 million) in the first quarter to five million riyals (\$12.9 million) in the second.

Investment revenues rose from five million riyals (\$12.9 million) to 16.5 million riyals (\$42.5 million).

Total revenues for the whole of last year were 1,188 million riyals (\$3,065 million) as against 1,736 million riyals (\$4,478.9 million) in 1985.

Oil revenues last year totalled 928.9 million riyals (\$2,396.6 million) compared to 1,510 million riyals (\$3,895.8 million) in 1985, the report said.

Meanwhile, it was also reported that Oman is to receive a four-million Kuwaiti dinar grant (\$14 million) from the Kuwait Economic Development Fund (KEDF) to finance the fourth

phase of the sultanate's natural gas extension project.

The KEDF has already contributed five million dinars (\$18 million) toward the second phase of the project, part of Oman's current efforts to step up the exploitation of its natural resources.

A 10-year gas exploration programme, launched in 1984, has yielded a significant discovery at Yibal. Other discoveries have been made near Moghul and Tauf Dahm.

With the increasing use of natural gas as a fuel in Oman, state revenue from the gas sector is steadily rising, according to a government spokesman.

Latest figures released by the State Development Council showed that gas revenue increased from 36.7 million riyals (\$91.7 million) in 1985 to 37.9 million riyals (\$94.75 million) last year.

Primary consumers are Oman's state-owned gas turbine power plants which serve Muscat and industrial and cement estates, and it is also used to serve a copper smelter and generate power and desalinate water at military installations.

Gulf newspaper criticises Arab shipping company

KUWAIT (AP) — The Kuwait-based United Arab Shipping Co. (UASC) which was recently confronted by 22 Indian seamen refusing to continue sailing after an Iranian attack in the Gulf waters, came under fire Saturday for its over-dependence on non-Arab personnel.

The newspaper Al Qabas criticised the company, the Arab World's largest shipping institution, for "jeopardising the safety of Arab maritime transport in the Gulf by depending on cheap, low-level non-Arab manpower."

"The management of the UASC is thus acting counter to the strategic justification of the company's establishment," it added.

The UASC is owned by the governments of six Arab countries in the Gulf, including Iraq whose seven-year-old war with Iran has spread to the seafarers of the oil-rich region.

A spokesman for the UASC withheld immediate comment on the charges but said a reply was being prepared by the management.

The Indians escaped injury when the UASC-operated container vessel Jebel Ali was attacked by Iranian speedboats off the United Arab Emirates (UAE) last Monday. They demanded repatriation when the vessel docked at Dubai for repairs.

The UASC owns a fleet of 57 ships. It was founded in 1976 by Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Iraq. A number of UASC ships, which hoists the Kuwaiti flag, have been attacked by Iran in the so-called tanker war.

Al Qabas said shipping circles were demanding an investigation into the company's failure to achieve the objective of "shipping security... by over-dependence on non-Arab personnel who quit at the first sign of danger."

Inflation soars in Yugoslavia

BELGRADE (R) — Prices in Yugoslavia jumped 11.1 per cent in August in a record monthly rise adding over 10 points to inflation.

Official figures from the Federal Statistics Office show annual retail inflation standing at 116.6 per cent.

The price of bread, milk, meat, petrol and many other goods jumped by as much as 100 per cent in August.

The cost of living index rose in August by 13.9 per cent — 120 per cent higher than a year earlier.

When Prime Minister Branko Mikulic took office in May last year, inflation was more than 85 per cent and he pledged to reduce it by 30 points within a year.

Spiralling inflation is being blamed more and more on financial malpractices in state-run businesses.

A major agro-industrial company, Agrikomerc, in Mr. Mikulic's home republic Bosnia-Herzegovina, was exposed last month for issuing up to \$500 million worth of false promissory notes, resulting in a scandal which shook the country's frail economy.

Yugoslav press reports said it was just the tip of an iceberg of malpractices in the crisis-ridden economy and accused top Bosnian politicians of being implicated in the affair.

In February Mr. Mikulic passed a wage-freeze law aimed at curbing inflation, but the move resulted only in a wave of strikes by angry workers throughout the country.

There have been increasing calls in the press and parliament for Mr. Mikulic's resignation.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today is a fine time to be very outgoing and to put your progressive ideas into motion. Try to get some new perspectives from exciting acquaintances.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Find some new type of recreation which will help you out of the rut you're in. Be more unpredictable.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Think about making your outside activities more interesting, and also more lucrative. Make the most of your talents.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) If you show some enthusiasm about a project you've been studying, you're likely to attract valuable assistance.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Modern business and bookkeeping methods are essential if you're to become successful.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You want to renew a relationship with a bizarre, but interesting, person. Go ahead and do it, you won't regret it.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more efficient at your workplace, and improve your outlook on life in general. Improve your relationships with co-workers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Making new contacts would be very beneficial today. Make a plan of action early today and follow through with it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Inviting an intelligent friend into your home would help to bring your family more harmony and happiness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Improving your work routines will help your success. A little trip would be best, but make arrangements carefully.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Budget your time so that you have an opportunity to check the sources of your information; they may not be valid.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Whether entertaining in your home, or a guest at another's, you can be very exciting. Dress "to the nines."

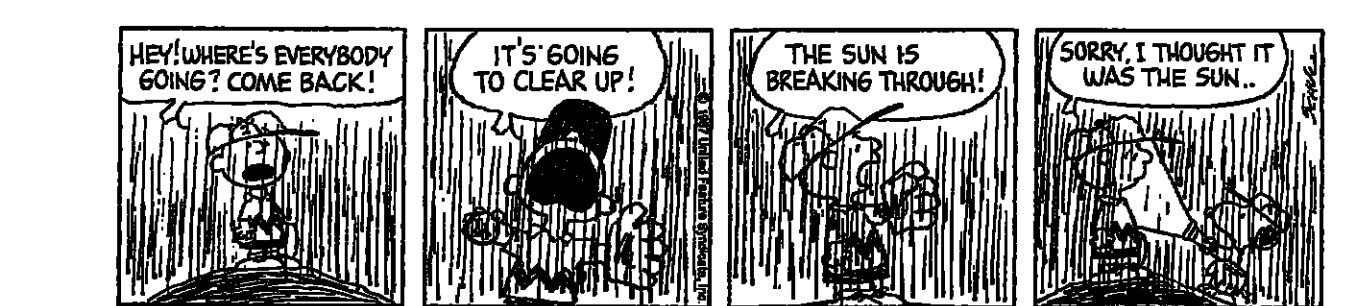
PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) An opportunity to get into a new interest should not be missed. Seek out and carefully consider advice from others.

THE Daily Crossword

by Bernard Menon

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1. code | 1. Help a |
| 5. Resorts | 2. Fasten |
| 9. Biological | 3. Verduo of |
| 14. Tab | 4. up and no |
| 15. Hack | 5. place to go |
| 16. NY city | 6. Barrel parts |
| 17. Krieviel | 7. Kind of tiger |
| 18. Zenith | 8. Discharge |
| 19. Bed and | 9. Memorial |
| 20. Mind | 10. Ripped off |
| 21. Entrance halls | 11. Baseball |
| 22. Car necessity | 12. family name |
| 25. Chemical | 13. Ring loudly |
| 26. ending | 14. Rabbit |
| 27. Death's burm | 15. Termini |
| 28. Going-away | 16. Thomas |
| 29. parties | 17. Scot |
| 32. Contemptible | 18. historian |
| 34. Malacca | 19. Literary |
| 36. Word with | 20. monogram |
| note & loose | 21. Hollandaise |
| 37. Flower | 22. Ad lib |
| receptacles | 23. freedoms |
| Churchish | 24. Golf warning |
| expressions | 25. Swain's place |
| 38. Rage | 26. Gaucho |
| 39. Healing plant | 27. Above |
| 40. More slowly | 28. Hid |
| 41. To be in | 29. Touch lightly |
| 42. Vaudeville act | 30. Spotted horse |
| 43. Fireplace | 31. Time zone |
| 44. residue | 32. Swain's place |
| 45. Sault — Marie | 33. Fall flowers |
| 46. Gives | 34. Army order |
| evidence | 35. Chief horse |
| 50. Fit exactly | 36. gods |
| 51. Be concerned | 37. More sensible |
| 52. Oakley | 38. Hackneyed |
| 53. Actress Kirk | 39. Britney |
| 54. Military group | 40. Bar, over |
| 55. Snide | 41. One |
| 56. Goddess of | 42. China |
| discord | 43. United |
| 57. Gr. cheese | 44. Fatigue |
| 58. Crosses | |
| 59. "Mable" | |
| 60. Grittle | |

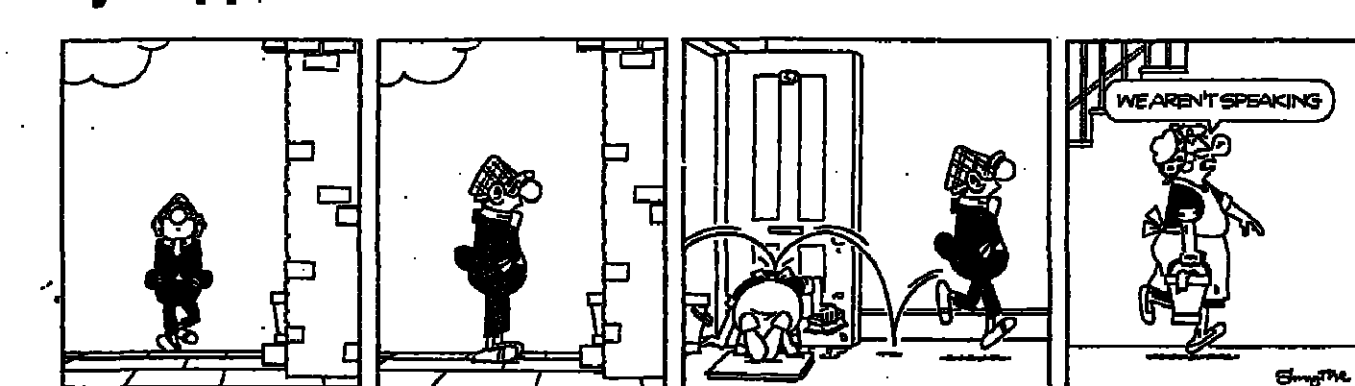
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

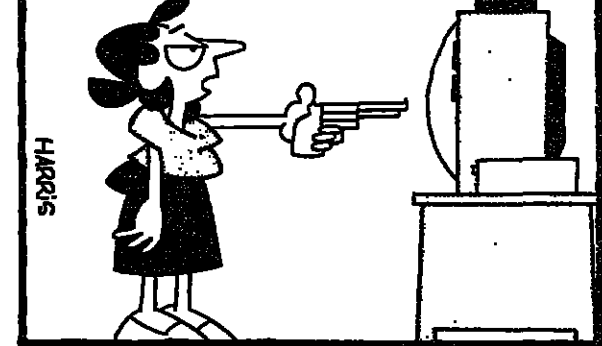


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"You stole my husband and turned him into a dull, flabby vegetable! For that you must die!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

| | |
|--------|-------|
| SOMYS | _____ |
| RUSUY | _____ |
| TYMIDI | _____ |
| WAIBLE | _____ |

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: " ———— "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KHAKI CYNIC UPWARD QUARRY
Answer: Another name for a crazy duck — A WACKY QUACKY

Aquino urged to sack Ramos

Most mutineers may be returned to units

MANILA (Agencies) — Reformists in the Philippine military have renewed demands for the dismissal of Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos, who saved President Corazon Aquino from a coup attempt nine days ago.

The Movement for Professionalism in the Armed Forces (MPA) feels poor leadership by Gen. Ramos has fuelled discontent in the army, which is fighting a bitter insurgency by Communist guerrillas, the Manila Chronicle newspaper said on Sunday.

MPA officers, who, the Chronicle said, include active and retired senior officers, also accuse Gen. Ramos of nursing presidential ambitions, the respected newspaper said.

Gen. Ramos, whose term as chief of staff runs until 1989, could not be reached for comment. But he has said he will step down any time Mrs. Aquino wants him to.

Mrs. Aquino publicly praised Gen. Ramos last week for putting down the Aug. 28 army revolt and has often expressed confidence in him.

The Chronicle said the MPA was unconnected with the coup attempt, which was quelled after fierce fighting around the presidential palace, a television station and a major army camp.

The coup leaders also demanded Gen. Ramos' dismissal.

In a letter to an unnamed cabinet official last month, MPA officers accused Gen. Ramos of promoting favourites and said he wanted to become president in elections in 1992, the Chronicle said.

It said the letter accused Gen. Ramos of keeping Mrs. Aquino ignorant of discontent within the

military to make himself indispensable to her.

The Chronicle did not identify the group's leaders but said most of its members are in the navy.

The military chief on Sunday approved a plan that eventually will return to active duty most of the troops captured in last month's coup attempt against President Aquino.

Meanwhile, a statement broadcast by the leader of the coup attempt was a hot topic Sunday on Manila radio call-in shows. Many callers urged a public dialogue about the allegations of corruption and mismanagement raised by the mutineers.

In the statement broadcast Saturday by private radio station DZRH, coup leader Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan vowed to continue his struggle against Mrs. Aquino's "misguided and incapable" leadership.

The military press office announced Sunday that Gen. Ramos had approved a recommendation by his staff for processing the 35 officers and 774 enlisted men detained on two Philippine Navy ships in Manila Bay following the Aug. 28 coup attempt.

In the report to Gen. Ramos, Maj. Gen. Eduardo Ermita, the deputy chief of staff, said 65 per cent of the detainees were privates or privates first class and "may be the least involved among the participants in the mutiny."

"It was proposed that military

and police elements in this category be segregated and transferred to the custody of their major service commands for deprocessing, retraining and reorientation so that they can be restored to normal duties," the military press statement said.

A military commander in the northern Philippines escaped unhurt from an ambush on Friday which killed three of his security guards, a military spokesman said.

He said Brigadier-General Felix Brawner was on his way to Manila from Isabela province when his two-car convoy was fired at.

Nineteen military recruits died and nearly 140 others have been hospitalised in what authorities said Sunday could have been a mass poisoning.

Military officials said many of the 225 Philippine Constabulary recruits in a training class in Zamboanga City fell ill Saturday after a seven-kilometre jog.

First reports said the recruits apparently suffered heat strokes, but officials said Sunday further investigation indicated possible poisoning.

Officials said survivors reported that an unidentified person offered them water and candies during the run in Zamboanga City, about 850 kilometres south of Manila.

"It is my opinion, based on my observation of patients, that a lethal or toxic substance, possibly pesticides, might have been mixed with water and given to the victims," said Lt. Col. Dante Quibang, a physician and deputy commander of the military hospital where most of the recruits were taken.

During the 1980s, Col. Bagaza came into increasing conflict with the influential Roman Catholic Church.

He expelled about 200 foreign missionaries and restricted religious activity on the grounds that the church was seeking to challenge the government.

The small central African country's borders remained closed on Saturday, Nairobi-based diplomats in radio contact with their embassies in Bujumbura said the capital appeared calm.

Col. Bagaza, a 41-year-old colonel, was reported to have flown to the Ugandan capital, Kampala.

Security officials at the Nairobi hotel where he stayed on Friday night said he was driven to Wilson Airport, the city's main centre for private flying, apparently bound for Uganda.

An airline official at Uganda's Entebbe Airport told Reuters later by telephone that a charter flight from Nairobi had arrived but he was unable to say whether Col. Bagaza was on board.

Burundi's new leader says coup prompted by patriotism

NAIROBI (R) — Burundi's new leader, Maj. Pierre Buyoya, said on Saturday that a coup which overthrew President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza last week was peaceful and prompted by patriotism.

In an address on Bujumbura Radio monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Mr. Buyoya said: "We were only fulfilling our patriotic duty when our endangered motherland called for it. We did it peacefully, and with the dignity which characterises our people."

Col. Bagaza was deposed on Thursday while attending summit of Francophone countries in Canada.

Maj. Buyoya, who described himself as chairman of a 20-strong Military Committee of National Redemption, said statements issued after Col. Bagaza's own takeover in a coup 11 years earlier denounced the acquisition by one person of political power, the violation of the constitution and incoherent economic policy.

He continued: "We are unfortunately forced to note that just a few years later, the regime of the second republic had fallen into the same errors."

Maj. Buyoya, 39, said Burundi's foreign policy would be based on non-interference in the affairs of other states and that freedom of religious worship would be respected.

During the 1980s, Col. Bagaza came into increasing conflict with the influential Roman Catholic Church.

He expelled about 200 foreign missionaries and restricted religious activity on the grounds that the church was seeking to challenge the government.

The small central African country's borders remained closed on Saturday, Nairobi-based diplomats in radio contact with their embassies in Bujumbura said the capital appeared calm.

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S. Africa, Angola agree to mass prisoner swap

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa says it has agreed on a mass prisoner exchange involving a Frenchman, a Dutchman, a South African, scores of Angolans and possibly some Cubans.

President P.W. Botha said in a statement on Saturday, "arrangements are presently in progress to effect the exchange on Monday."

He said the swap, announced earlier in Paris, would take place in the Mozambican capital Maputo.

Under the deal, Angola will release a captured South African military officer, a tribal homeland will free jailed Frenchman Pierre Albertini and South Africa will allow Dutchman Klaas de Jonge to leave diplomatic sanctuary in Pretoria.

Mr. Botha said 133 Angolan soldiers will be freed by rebels of the right-wing National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and that "certain Angolan and Cuban citizens" might be returned to Angola later.

South Africa acknowledges supplying UNITA in its bush war against the Angolan government, which has support from Cuban troops. It denies Angolan reports that South African troops frequently raid deep into its territory in support of UNITA.

Mr. Botha said Monday's exchange would include the bodies of three South African soldiers and one Angolan.

South Africa had promised that a further seven Angolan captives would be freed within 10 days of Monday's swap, while Angola had agreed to release the bodies of other South Africans as soon

as possible, he added.

It was not clear from Mr. Botha's statement whether UNITA was holding all the Angolans and Cubans and a Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to elaborate.

The South African officer, Major Wynand Du Toit, was captured in May 1985 in northern Angola. He told a news conference there that he had been on an abortive raid on a U.S.-owned oil installation in the northern enclave of Cabinda.

South Africa said Maj. Du Toit had been forced to say this and that he was merely on a reconnaissance mission.

Albertini was jailed in the tribal homeland of Ciskei in March for four years for refusing to testify at a trial of several anti-apartheid leaders facing terrorism charges.

The deal breaks diplomatic deadlock over demands by Ciskei's rulers that France must negotiate his release with them. France had refused to do so because no foreign state recognises Ciskei, set up by South Africa under its policy of racial segregation.

The release of De Jonge, who celebrated his 50th birthday on Saturday in the Dutch embassy where he took refuge more than two years ago, will solve another diplomatic headache.

South Africa wanted to try him on charges of helping Angolan National Congress (ANC) guerrillas. The Netherlands refused to hand him over after he gave security police interrogators the slip and sought diplomatic sanctuary.

U.N. efforts on Afghan peace resumes today

GENEVA (AP) — Pakistan and Afghanistan resume indirect talks on an Afghan peace settlement Monday after a six-month break, with a renewed focus on setting a timetable for the withdrawal of an estimated 115,000 Soviet troops.

The talks resume in Geneva just three days before U.S. and Soviet officials are to meet, also in Geneva, to discuss the Afghan question and the situation in the Gulf.

The new round also precedes by a week the scheduled meeting between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in Washington, where the Afghan question is likely to be on their agenda. Mr. Shevardnadze may also meet with Presi-

dent Ronald Reagan.

Diego Cordovez, the United Nations mediator in the six-year-old periodic talks, said last week in announcing the latest round that the timetable for withdrawing Soviet troops remained the major obstacle to an accord.

During the last round, which ended on March 10, officials said the Soviets, through their Afghan allies, offered a pullout over 18 months while the Pakistanis demanded a seven-month period.

Two weeks ago, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev said the next round would set a deadline for the withdrawal of Moscow's troops.

Soviet officials have stressed, however, that a pullout is conditional on an end to foreign aid to the guerrillas.

Cuba reportedly to free 348 prisoners

MIAMI (AP) — The largest group of Cuban political prisoners to be freed from the island since 1980 will start to arrive in Miami this month, a newspaper reported.

Among the 348 men Cuban President Fidel Castro has agreed to release are the last of a generation of anti-Castro militants who served up to 27 years in prison, the Miami Herald said in a story published Saturday.

No specific dates have been set for the first departures, said Craig Raynsford, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Services' chief negotiator with Cuba. He returned from Cuba last Wednesday.

Some of the 348 are no longer in prison but have remained in Cuba awaiting permission to emigrate to the United States. The first batch will consist of between 60 and 80 ex-prisoners and their families, Mr. Raynsford told the Herald.

Mounting international criticism apparently prompted Mr. Castro to show more willingness to release political prisoners and allow them to emigrate, Mr. Raynsford said.

"They are very concerned about the human rights allegations," he said. "There is more of an interest in humanitarian concerns and that is a good sign for these people in prison."

France said to have tried to join Commonwealth

PARIS (R) — France tried to join the Commonwealth, grouping Britain's former colonies, 30 years ago just before the Suez crisis, according to official documents. The Sunday Times of London said.

In a front-page article, modern historian Dr. John Zeman said documents released by the Public Records Office under a 30-year rule showed French Prime Minister Guy Mollet proposed to join the Commonwealth during talks in Paris with British Prime Minister Anthony Eden.

It said France made the proposal after Britain declined to resurrect a 1940 proposal for an Anglo-French union, which would have included joint defence, foreign, financial and economic policies.

When he returned to London, Mr. Eden told the Cabinet Secretary Sir Norman Brook that

UNESCO reports 886m illiterates in world

PEKING (AP) — UNESCO Director-General Amadou Mahtar M'Bow said Sunday there are 886 million illiterates in the world, with one-fourth of all non-readers residing in China.

Dr. M'Bow told a news conference that despite China's 220 million illiterates, he was confident the country could eliminate the problem by the end of the century.

He said UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, is actively cooperating with China in promoting general and adult education.

He noted that Jilin province in north-east China, a participant in UNESCO programmes, has reduced illiteracy to 4 per cent and

has a school enrollment rate of 87 per cent.

China last year made education through the ninth grade compulsory, but acknowledged it would take years before some remote rural areas would be able to achieve that goal. China has more than 1 billion people, about one-fifth of the world population.

Dr. M'Bow said 666 million of the world's illiterates are in Asia and that 54 per cent of Asian adults cannot read. Three-fourths of illiterate adults live in rural areas and 60 per cent of them are women, he said.

He also said he was "very sorry" about the decisions by the United States and Britain to withdraw from UNESCO, "but this is a political decision inspired by

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Comedy closes after 16 years

LONDON (AP) — No Sex Please, We're British, the stage comedy that opened to a chorus of critical jeers, has closed after playing for more than 16 years and collecting £3 million (\$13.2 million) at the box office. Producer John Gale blamed the closing on a general malaise in the West End theatre district. "But, frankly, after 16 years, it's conceivable we have come to the end of our audience in London," he said. The final show was the 6,761st performance of the farce at London's Duchess Theatre, where it opened on June 3, 1971. "I suppose all good things must come to an end," said Gale. "When the show opened in 1971, I thought it would probably run for a year. It's very nice to be proved so wrong." Only one London critic thought the farce funny when it first opened, but the play recouped its initial £12,000 (then about \$29,000) in six weeks.

Madonna's Italian debut called a success

FLORENCE, Italy (AP) — Italian newspapers praised Madonna's debut concert in the country as a commercial success and a "magic" evening, but questioned the quality of the music. The day after 70,000 enthusiastic fans packed the Turin Municipal Stadium to see her perform 16 songs, organisers of Sunday's concert in Florence reported that all 55,000 seats in the stadium had been sold out. The Friday night concert, broadcast live by Italian RAI-television to Italy and other European countries, was seen by more than 14 million Italian viewers. The young crowd in Turin was ecstatic about the performance, the young crowd in Turin was ecstatic about the performance, the young crowd in Turin was ecstatic about the performance. The Milan daily Corriere della Sera called the concert "a magic evening," but said, "we're not sure Madonna... will go down in the anthologies of rock or pop music." Rome's La Repubblica said Madonna had evoked "energy... of a material that before today had never been seen at great gatherings of youth." It called the performance "pure plastic," and a "high quality commercial product."

Judge rejects Japanese name for child

PARIS (R) — A French court has banned a couple from christening their daughter with a Japanese name, court sources have said. They said a court in the south western city of Lyon had ruled a keen interest in Japanese culture was not enough of a reason for the local family to baptise their daughter Keiko. Under French law, a judge can ban parents from giving their children names deemed unsuitable. The parents, wanted to give their child four first names, Keiko Marie Anna and Carlota but the court ruled the child should be called Carlota Marie Anna Keiko, allowing the Japanese name as a fourth name. The parents said after the ruling they would continue to call their daughter Keiko.

Wall walker vows to 'invade S. Union'

SEATTLE (AP) — John Runnings, known as the "wall walker" for his protests atop the Berlin Wall, has vowed "to invade the Soviet Union" to protest the four-year prison sentence given West German flier Mathias Rust. Runnings, 70, of Seattle, was expelled from East Germany in February after being held for three months following his latest protest against the barrier dividing East and West Berlin. He was given a three-year parole period by an East Berlin court, but he said upon his return to the United States that he planned to demonstrate again his opposition to militarily imposed borders. "I want to get somebody to take me in a plane, a balloon or a boat," Runnings said. "Lacking that, I would probably fly to Finland and walk across the border."

U.S. falling behind in academic excellence

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States is lagging in its push for academic excellence, a congressman says. "How well we do in arms control negotiations, in finding peace in Central America or competing in the global marketplace depends on the strength of our schools," said Augustus Hawkins, a member of the opposition Democratic Party who represents a district from the state of California in the U.S. House of Representatives. He cited U.S. illiteracy and dropout rates as signs the nation is "falling dramatically behind other nations in academic excellence." "While some industrialised countries are almost 100 per cent literate, one-third of American adults cannot read above the ninth-grade level," Hawkins said in the Democratic response to President Ronald Reagan's weekly radio address. "If adult illiteracy is today's national shame, the dropout epidemic among our youth is disaster for the future," he added. "In some communities, two-thirds of youngsters who enter high school fail to graduate, leading to lives of unemployment and crime."

Two-day Atlantic rowing record claimed

DUBLIN (R) — A 50-year-old Briton claimed on Saturday to have completed the first two-way row across the Atlantic singlehandedly. Don Allum, an advertising executive from London, said he reached Achill Island, off the Republic of Ireland's north western coast on Friday night, 77 days after leaving Canada. Allum said he was almost killed two days ago when his 17-foot (5.5-metre) fibre-glass boat capsized. "I turned over three times in the night," he said. "I wrote my obituary and my goodbyes and put them in a flare jar which I lashed to an oar. I knew that if I went down, the oar would be released and found." Allum set the record for a two-person east-west crossing with a cousin in 1971.

Bill Cosby signs deal with Warner Bros.

LOS ANGELES (R) — Bill Cosby, who has had the top-rated show on U.S. television for three years, has signed an agreement to create, produce and star in his next film for Warner Bros., the studio's president has said. The film will be shot next April, after the Cosby winds up work on his situation comedy, the Cosby Show, and is scheduled to be released the following Christmas season. Terry Semel, president of Warner Bros., said in a statement. "We're immensely excited that Bill Cosby — who through films, television, records and concert appearances is one of the country's most influential talents — will be making his next picture for Warner," Semel said. No financial details of the agreement were made public. Cosby's most recent film effort, "Leonard VI," which he starred in and produced for Columbia Pictures, is due to be released in December.

Fire causes damage at Universal Studios

LOS ANGELES (R) — A fire destroyed film sets worth an estimated \$2.5 million at Universal Studios on Friday night after the studio received a telephoned bomb threat. A city fire department spokesman said. Seventy-five studio workers had to leave the area while 200 firemen fought the blaze, which broke out after the studio received an anonymous telephone call threatening to burn and bomb it, spokesman Eduardo Hernandez said. No bomb was found by a police arson unit and no motive for the bomb threat has been established, he added. One of the sets badly damaged was used in the film Spartacus, he said.

Beer shares wine shop with Barrell

CAMBRIDGE, England (R) — Magistrates had to keep a straight face when they agreed to new licences taking over a wine shop in this university town — the manager and his boss are John Beer and Andrew Barrell.

U.S. shuttle booster cracks after test

HUNTSVILLE, Alabama (AP) — An official said Saturday that a five-foot (1.5 metre) section of the redesigned shuttle booster rocket cracked after a test firing.

Gerald Smith, manager of the booster programme at the Marshall Space Flight Centre, said the crack was caused by a defective cooling system that is used only in ground tests.

"It occurs after the test," he said. "It has nothing to do with the actual design or the performance of the motor."

Marshall spokesman Ed Medel

said the problem would in no way change plans to launch another shuttle flight in June 1988, although the damaged rocket segment could not be used in future tests.

The crack was caused by molten propellant residue described as "aluminium slag," which the cooling system failure allowed to "just sit there and cook" after it collected in the booster during the test, Mr. Smith said.

"The problem occurs only in horizontal ground firings," said Medel. A rocket in flight expels

the residue through a motor nozzle, he said.

"These segments, after we test, can be recycled and used again. In this case it will not be," said Mr. Smith, who called the test "totally successful."

Smith said he could not estimate the replacement cost of the cracked segment.

The firing also blistered paint on other sections of the 126-foot (38 metre) redesigned space shuttle booster and officials will have to do hardness tests on those, he said.

U.S. team recommends medical aid for Vietnam

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. medical team that went to Hanoi to discuss Vietnamese programmes to rehabilitate war wounded believes there should be a favourable American response to Vietnam's request for assistance.

"We're going to make a positive recommendation," said Fred Downs, a veterans administration (VA) official and member of the study group. "We believe there should be some aid."

At the same time, he made clear that any assistance that does result from the survey would come from private organisations, not the U.S. government, which has no diplomatic relations with Vietnam.

Mr. Downs, who heads the VA's Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service, joined two other

rehabilitation experts on a four-day trip to Vietnam last month. They talked with Foreign Ministry and health officials and toured a centre near Son Tay where artificial limbs, orthopedic devices and other rehabilitation equipment are produced and fitted.

The panel was sent under an agreement worked out in Hanoi earlier in August by retired Gen. John W. Vessey Jr., President Reagan's special emissary.

The pact called for Vietnam to resume help in accounting for the 1.76 Americans still listed as missing in Vietnam during the Indochina war. The United States pledged to look into some of Vietnam's humanitarian concerns.

Sri Lanka enforces curfew after murder of Muslim aide

MUTUR, Sri Lanka (R) — Indian soldiers and Sri Lankan police armed with automatic weapons on Sunday patrolled the dusty streets of this fishing village in eastern Sri Lanka after the murder of a Muslim official threatened to spark a new outbreak of communal violence.

The patrols were enforcing a 20-hour curfew imposed since Thursday when assistant government agent Habib Mohammad was shot dead by three gunmen while on his way to pray at a local mosque.

"There is still tension in the area," a police official said. Long-simmering animosity between Muslims and Tamils, both minority groups in Sinhalese-dominated Sri Lanka, erupted after the shooting.

Muslims, who make up 90 per cent of Mutur's 19,000 population blamed the attack on members of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist group.

The Tigers are supposed to have surrendered their arms to Indian peacekeeping troops here to enforce the terms of a pact signed between New Delhi and Colombo aimed at ending a four-year Tamil revolt in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

The Tigers deny any involvement in the 29-year-old official's murder, and say it was a personal vendetta.

Kirubiraj Vairamuttu, Tigers' deputy leader in the area, said that an hour after the murder some 500 to 1,000 Muslims stormed the Tigers' headquarters in Mutur.

They pelted the building with stones and damaged everything they could find inside.

Two Tiger members and a woman were slightly injured. "But we did not retaliate against them," Mr. Vairamuttu said.

Tamil houses and shops near the Tigers' office were hit by stones, but police said this was more by accident than design.

Mr. Vairamuttu said three Tamils were assaulted on Saturday by about 500 Muslims and others attacked a Tamil man in Periyapalam, three kilometres outside the town, and robbed him of 500 rupees (\$17) in cash.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AK1094 ♣J65 ♠AQJ982
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
What do you bid?
A.—Even with such a good hand and strong club suit, there is no reason to depart from standard practice. That requires you to bid a four-card major suit before rebidding a six-card minor if you can do so at the cheapest level. Bid one spade.
- Q.2**—With vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ ♣KQJ10652 ♠9 ♠KQ5
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?
A.—While we can just construct a hand with one ace that partner might open, we would bet on his holding at least two. Therefore, we think this hand is perfectly suited to a Blackwood four no trump inquiry. We would then bid five or six hearts, or seven no trump, depending on how many aces partner shows.
- Q.3**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠A9 ♣KQ5 ♠KQJ ♠AKQ9
Partner opens the bidding with four hearts. What do you respond?
A.—Unless you and your partner have some methods of your own, you should pass. An opening preempt denies a hand that contains two aces. Any hand with a second ace and a suit good enough to bid at the four-level is strong enough to open with a one-bid.
- Q.4**—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK554 ♣8 ♠AK7 ♠AJ63
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ 1 ♣ 1 ♠ 1 ♣ 2 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?
A.—Partner's bid of two clubs shows a weak hand. However, you are so rich in controls that you can probably make a game opposite no more than six clubs headed by the queen and a well-placed singleton. Advise partner of this by jumping to five clubs.
- Q.5**—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KJ742 ♣83 ♠J7 ♠1063
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♣ 3 NT Pass
What action do you take?
A.—Don't bid four spades—had partner wanted to hear from you, he would have doubled for takeout. You can expect him to have a running minor suit and a smattering of cards outside. Pass.
- Q.6**—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠9 ♣KQ78 ♠AKJ98 ♠452
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♠ 4 ♠ Pass
What action do you take?
A.—West's preempt has made scientific investigation well-nigh impossible. However, partner should have at least a semi-solid seven-card spade suit and an outside ace for his jump, so we would gamble out six spades.